



# **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY ACTS**

**SUBJECT: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE**

**FILE NUMBER: 100-4712**

**PART: 6 OF 19**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**FILE DESCRIPTION**  
**BUREAU FILE**

**SUBJECT** AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

**FILE NO.** 100-4710

**SECTION NO.** 6

**SERIALS** 264

through

335



ADDRESS REPLY TO  
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"  
AND REFER TO  
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 23, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In re: Examination of [REDACTED] Material  
in New York.

b7c  
b7d

100-4712-264

Prior to Sunday, December 7, 1941, you will recall arrangements had been made for a member of this Unit and a representative of your Bureau's office in New York to examine certain materials relative to the Nazi infiltration into the America First Committee.

Because of the emergency this examination was suspended for the time being.

I now believe that it would be wise to make the planned examination in order to appraise the value of the material for use in connection with action against German organizations under the Voorhis or Foreign Agents Acts.

If you agree with this suggestion, will you kindly let me know who the representative in New York will be and I will see that arrangements for the proposed examination are made.

*Lawrence M. C. Smith*  
Lawrence M. C. Smith  
Chief, Special Defense Unit

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3/26/51 G-44

RECORDED

INDEXED

100-4712-264
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 9 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Holloman  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy  
Miss Phipps

*America First Committee*

January 7, 1942

b7c

100-4712-264

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. L. E. G. SMITH  
CHIEF, SPECIAL DEFENSE UNIT

109173

With reference to the suggestion contained in your memorandum of December 23, 1941, that arrangements now be made for an examination of the material in the possession of [redacted] in New York City, I should like to advise that Assistant Director F. E. Foxworth, who is in charge of the New York City Office of this Bureau, has been informed of your intention to review the material and will make an Agent of that office available at such time as your representative is in New York City for the purpose of making the examination.

b7c  
b7D

If you will have your representative contact Mr. Foxworth in New York City, specific arrangements can then be made with him for the examination to be made jointly by your representative and a Special Agent of the FBI.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

318,319

SP9BTJ/CAL

10-16-90

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/12/86 BY [redacted]

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED

7 1942

REGISTRATION  
ICE

copy 1 (paragraph) 1/19/42  
Unclassified per [redacted] 4/11/91  
dtd 5/30/91  
8/23/91 [redacted] 8/14/91

[redacted]

[redacted]

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☐ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☒ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

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100-4712-263

February 26, 1942

109171

10-16-90 SP8STJ/KOL

Special Agent in Charge  
Chicago, Illinois

*John Edgar Hoover*  
*Director*

Dear Sir:

As of possible interest to you, the Bureau has been supplied with information from an unknown outside source that the German-American pro-Nazi espionage system has been radically changed recently; that this country is now divided into three areas and each area is under the absolute supervision of a 100% American who attends to the major districts and is the pay-off man to the lieutenants, who actually handle the business end of the espionage work.

The same source advised that the pay-off for the eastern area is reported to be Philadelphia, while a suburb of Chicago, possibly Winnetka, Illinois, is the headquarters of the central group. On the west coast the headquarters is reported to be a little town about thirty miles from San Francisco. This town is not believed to be on the sky line drive or on the lower bay drive but is across the bay west of Berkeley and possibly up toward Richmond.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
San Francisco  
RECEIVED  
FEB 26 1942 P.M.  
FEB 26 1942  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-ROOM 800  
FEB 26 1942  
FEB 26 1942

b7c

24 MAR 2 1942

January 7, 1942

Mr. P. E. Penworth  
Assistant Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
407 U. S. Court House, Foley Square  
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

With reference to previous communication with you concerning the desire of the Special Defense Unit to review material in the possession of [redacted] pertaining to fifth column activities in the United States, I should like to advise that the Special Defense Unit has now informed the Bureau that it is the intention of that Unit to appraise the material in [redacted] possession. I have communicated with Mr. L. M. C. Smith, Chief of the Special Defense Unit, advising that if a representative of his office will contact you in New York City, arrangements may be made for an examination of this material by the representative of the Special Defense Unit and a Special Agent of the New York Office.

I wish you would make arrangements so that these plans may be consummated at such time as a representative of the Special Defense Unit contacts you.

Very truly yours,

RECORDED  
INDEXED  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

100-4712-266

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED

★ JAN 7 1942 ★

P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_

First Committee

Answered

4 JAN 12 1942

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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**Section 552****Section 552a**☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☐ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☒ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

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**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.**

January 8, 1942.

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/2/82 BY SP-6 BJT/Hoy

Dear Sir:

10-16-90 SP8BJS/LS

Reference is made to your letter of January 7, 1942 wherein you refer to a previous communication to the Bureau from this office concerning the desire of the Special Defense Unit to review the material in the possession of [REDACTED] pertaining to Fifth Column activities in the United States.

Please be advised that a very thorough search of the indices of the New York Office has failed to reveal such a communication to the Bureau. This search revealed several 100-0 memoranda and other miscellaneous material wherein [REDACTED] is mentioned.

It will be appreciated if the Bureau will advise this office on what date the letter referred to was written to the Bureau in order that such letter may be located in the files of the New York Office.

It is also requested that in the event any file number was shown on this piece of correspondence, it likewise be given to the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

*P. E. Foxworth*  
P. E. FOXWORTH,  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR.

EX - 13

RECORDED

INDEXED

100-4712-268  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
19 JAN 9 1942  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

6 JAN 27 1942

FILE

*Domestic Trust Committee  
Cecilia Mallory  
& Franklyn out  
3/26/58 J. H.*

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

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RECORDED 100-4712-189

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

1:19:59

Dear Sir:

There are set forth below for your information the pertinent portions of a communication received at the Bureau on January 14, 1942, from a confidential source.

[REDACTED]

b7c  
b7D

#245238

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

b7c

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

2 MAR 1942  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 1  
★ FEB 27 1942 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

10-16-90  
SP8673160

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MAR 10 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**CONFIDENTIAL**

WAR DEPARTMENT  
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, 8-2  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

**JAN 15 1942**

199163

**Subject:**

Letter of transmittal.

203

Lt. Col. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

The attached communications are forwarded for your

information and such action as you consider advisable.

RAYMOND E. LEE, JR.  
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,  
Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

**/ Enclosures:**

1 ENCL. 11

100-4712-270

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Declassified per Army  
letter dtd 5/29/96  
823 mch/may 8/9/91

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES

Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

Governors Island, New York

CONFIDENTIAL

WGL/14

January 9, 1942

Subject: CHARLES LINDBERGH - AMERICA FIRST.

To: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2,  
War Department,  
Washington, D. C.

103165

1. The attached copy of report, received from a highly confidential and reliable informant, reports a meeting held by COLONEL LINDBERGH and other AMERICA FIRST members on December 17, 1941.
2. This is transmitted for your information.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2:

F. J. PEARSON,  
Colonel, U.S.G.,  
Executive Officer, G-2.

1 Incl. (trip)  
Copy rept re subj

Pres. Dist.  
and CA

G-2 / Chief Dist.  
cc: C.  
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OFA  
File

Reclassified per Army  
letter dtd 5/29/91  
823 mch/stg 8/9/91  
1-14-42  
3 mth

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MID 201 America Fi.  
1-3-42

Committee

Report on two meetings of the nucleus of America First,  
one of which was attended by Charles Lindbergh.

I. Present at the first meeting

About 50 persons were present among whom were:

Mrs. Catherine Larkin  
Douglas Gregory  
Horace Haase  
Ethel Taylor  
Frances Zimmer

Miss Shuh  
Jean Benney  
George Smith  
Mr. Quinto  
Thurman Blackwood  
Charles Lindbergh

109165

This party was held in the home of Mr. Edwin S. Webster, Beekman Place, on the night of December 17th, 1941. It was held in honor of the speakers of America First.

When the party began the guests were told that Lindbergh happened to be in town and had consented to attend the party on the condition that no one would require him to make a speech. He did come in a little later and spoke for an hour at the first opportunity! The gist of what he said, according to reports of two persons who were present, was as follows:

"There is only one danger in the world -- that is the yellow danger. China and Japan are really bound together against the white race. There could only have been one efficient weapon against this alliance, underneath the surface, Germany itself could have been this weapon. The ideal set-up would have been to have had Germany take over Poland and Russia, in collaboration with the British, as a bloc against the yellow people and bolshevism. But instead, the British and the fools in Washington had to interfere. The British envied the Germans and wanted to rule the world forever. Britain is the real cause of all the trouble in the world today."

"Of course, America First cannot be active right now. But it should keep on the alert and when the large missing lists and losses are published the American people will realize how much they have been bet by the British and the Administration. Then America First can be political force again. We must be quiet a while and await the time for active functioning. There may be a time soon when we can achieve a negotiated peace."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

After this speech of Lindbergh's, Horace Haase declared in gist not quite agree on one point with the Colonel. It is obvious wary for the leaders of America First such as Wood and Webster quiet. But the organization should not be destroyed. I have been in the lime-light and have nothing to lose. I can remain in a quiet way. I should like to offer to keep the files, and must get ready for the next attack which must be made on this administration. We must combat Union Now. If and when

Pres. Dist.  
and ca

Ex/CS dist.:  
Mr C.  
J.B.24  
one  
File

L. reliable  
S. reliable

1-14-42  
3-11-42

moment comes, I feel sure that our leaders — and especially the Colonel — will take the leadership and lead us to victory." *all*

This talk was much applauded and Lindbergh himself thanked Haase himself for the confidence expressed in him.

II. Present at the other and smaller meeting at the apartment of Mrs. Marie D. Hilliard, 7 Park Avenue, on December 17, 1941:

Mr. Cullen  
Marjorie Lane

Mr. John Scott  
Mr. Ingersoll and others

11:31:67

Mrs. Hilliard is a woman of about 50 years of age who has traveled widely in Europe and spent much time in Germany. She brought the Protocols of Zion back with her from one of her European trips. She reads this frequently to her friends and read it again at this meeting. She is considered a little bit of a crack-pot by the more responsible America Firsters. Her wall was adorned with pictures of Kirsten Flagstad, of whom she said, "She loves the Germans very much, which is quite understandable." She calls FDR a dictator and an idiot who follows the whims of Churchill. She is especially bitter against persons like Henderson, whom she considers a communist.

Mr. Cullen, a lawyer in Bay Ridge, former chairman of the Bay Ridge unit of America First, expressed great patriotic nationalism but of course he added that the really patriotic thing to do would be to overthrow the present government which has taken the wrong course. He thinks we should get out of Asia and stated that the Japanese have a natural right to have Asia as their sphere of influence. He favors the creation of a new America First organization.

Mrs. Marjorie Lane has been active in Women United. She spoke of having connections with a Mrs. Young and a Miss Butler, Chairman and secretary of an organization which holds together the old Paul Revere Sentinels. She also gave a mailing list to McCafferty's for the Tomahawk. She wants to boycott Jewish stores. She said she was whole-heartedly with the idea of a new organization.

Amos Pinchot was not at the meeting but sent a message, according to Haase, that he was interested but could not join the new organization officially.

Edwin Webster sent a similar message.

John Scott, editor of MONEY, will print the advertising for the new organization in his paper and mail out 10,000 copies.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR DEPARTMENT  
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, G-2  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

JAN 10 1942

Subject: Letter of transmittal.

To: Lt. Col. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

The attached communications are forwarded for your  
information and such action as you consider advisable.

*Raymond E. Lee*  
RAYMOND E. LEE,  
Brigadier General; U. S. Army,  
Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

Enclosures:

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Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
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Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
Files	.....

FBI  
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RECORDED  
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INDEXED

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100-4712-271

FEB 12 1942

U. S. L.

8 FEB 18 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Declassified per Army  
letter dtd 5/29/91  
8/23 mch/taj 8/9/91

C O P Y

**CONFIDENTIAL**

December 19, 1941.

Report on two meetings of the nucleus of America First,  
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**I. Present at the first meeting**

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Horace Haase	George Smith
Ethel Taylor	Mr. Giacinto
Frances Zimmer	Thurman Blackwood
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"Of course, America First cannot be active right now. But it should keep on the alert and when the large missing lists and losses are published the American people will realize how much they have been betrayed by the British and the Administration. Then America First can be a political force again. We must be quiet for a while and await the time for active functioning. There may be a time soon when we can advocate a negotiated peace."

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**CONFIDENTIAL**

Declassified per Army  
Letter dtd 5/29/91  
8123 mch/rag 8/9/91



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~Mr. Cullen~~  
Marjorie Lane

~~Mr. John Scott~~  
~~Mr. Fingersoll and others~~

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Edwin Webster sent a similar message.

John Scott, editor of ~~the~~ MONEY, will print the advertising for the new organization in his paper and mail out 10,000 copies.

Distribution: FBI ✓

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



January 14, 1942

100-4712

109163

Special Agent in Charge  
Chicago, Illinois

RE: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Please refer to my letter dated November 7, 1941,  
in the above entitled matter and advise immediately what  
steps have been taken by your office in an effort to com-  
ply with my request.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

10-16-90 SP8BTJCL

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~DATE 10-16-90 BY SP8BTJCL~~

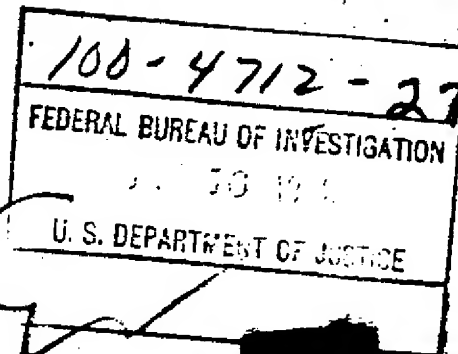
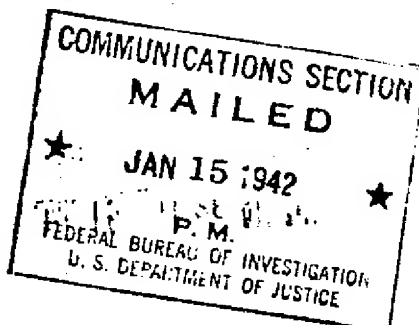
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21 1942

RECORDED

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_




2A7-74

# Lindbergh Under Fire

Two Sources Report Secret  
Speech Here After War Dec  
laration 7/1/4

Alarming and significant developments  
Charles A. Lindbergh have been circulated  
andly. These events are being used by  
in the American People's Party and the  
America's Future meeting in New York City  
after 1945. The meeting is a program  
for the war and peace. The program  
is a program for the war and peace.  
Object: to make the world a better  
Democracy. The program is a program  
for the war and peace. The program  
is a program for the war and peace.  
Government. The program is a program  
for the war and peace. The program  
is a program for the war and peace.

## Oliver's Story:

 Oliver said that a "German boy who now seeks a place within Army of the U.-S." addressed secret Fascist meeting in a Beckman Fl apartment on Dec. 29.

"The name of one of the speakers and substance of what he said," Oliver stated, "would astound the nation. Here is paraphrase of one thing he said:

"America First should be in the line to take advantage of the machines that will come when the tide of the machine the dead and the weary begin to appear, for it is then that the American people of every race and the American people who can be covered by the Ford tag appeal will be able to understand how they have been betrayed by the British and the Administration."

"We," said the speaker, whose identity would not be disclosed, "must be quiet while and wait for active functioning."

“There may be a time when we can advocate a negotiated peace.”

The war philosophy of this speech can be summed up this way—Germans should have been quietly appeased and deliberately lied to as an ally against the Yellow Race, that is, Japan and China combined.

**The World's Largest and Most Diverse**

Best copy  
available

## Lindbergh Re-enlists

Charles A. Lindbergh has offered his unqualified services to the Army and Navy. This simple act of a plain citizen will, we fancy, loose a torrent of comment on the onetime colonel's fitness to serve his country.

For ourselves, in the interests of the new unity, we are willing to believe with General Arnold that "Lindbergh's act indicates a definite change from his isolationist stand." A great many Americans were shown to be mistaken about the scope and character of this war when the Japanese enveloped us at Pearl Harbor. We must accept the signs of desperation at face value—least until they locate the enemy's trail for old Hawaii.

But Mr. Lindbergh did so much more than merely make himself ridiculous by saying that the war could never touch America; for the Lone Eagle referred often and unanimously—when presidential elections three years away—to a "change of government" in Washington. It seems to us, therefore, that he should be placed in a sort of special category of youths—a category north Florida pastor once described as "the mebbe-eh's."

And then there is this other consideration: some of Mr. Lindbergh's closest friends have been saying that military men who have betrayed a pitiful ignorance of modern weapons should not be permitted to retain posts which they could place the lives of other Americans in jeopardy. Surely the gods' name will fit the ranger.

So the way to the Army—except to offer, by all means, that give the world's job commensurate with military knowledge and with his equally expressed lack of faith in the government.

Best copy  
available

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA**

FILE NO. **100-922**

REPORT MADE AT <b>OKLAHOMA CITY</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>1/22/42</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>1/21/42</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div>
TITLE <b>AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY</b>
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start; padding-top: 10px;"> <div style="width: 40%; font-style: italic;"> <p><i>main</i></p> </div> <div style="width: 55%;"> <p>Activities of AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE for past few months in Oklahoma set out. Latest reports are that activities of this committee have ceased since America's entrance into war.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">10-16-90 SP8BTJ/c</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/12/84 BY [signature]</p> </div> </div>			
REFERENCE: <p>Report of Special Agent [redacted] Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 9/10/41.</p>			
DETAILS: <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 150px; margin-top: 10px;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 50px; margin-top: 10px;"></div>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">100-4712-252</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">JAN 26 1942</div>	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 2 - Chicago (Inf.) 2 - St. Paul (Inf.) 3 - Oklahoma City		RECORDED & INDEXED <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;">b7c</div>	

b7c

b7c

b7c  
b7D

COPY 1  
3/14/42 R-44

1/22/42

[REDACTED] b7c b7D

[REDACTED] b7c b7D

furnished this office with a report dated October 28, 1941, at which time he advised that there was practically no activity in that area on the part of this Committee at that time. He advised that the Chairman of this Committee, [REDACTED] b7c b7D is violently anti-New Deal and he felt sure that [REDACTED] would not do anything against this country.

Mrs. EUGENIE HOWARD [REDACTED] b7c b7D  
Tulsa, is Secretary of the Tulsa Organization and [REDACTED]  
Mrs. ELLA GESSER [REDACTED] is Treasurer.  
Both are natives of the state of Nebraska and have resided in Tulsa for many years. [REDACTED] believed that they were pacifists and did not think they were un-American.

Reverend O. A. PANKEY, [REDACTED] b7c b7D  
[REDACTED] was temporary Chairman at the time the Tulsa Chapter was organized. He was also described to be of the pacifist type but it was not believed that he had un-American interests.

On January 20, 1941, [REDACTED] b7c b7D  
[REDACTED] Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, furnished this office with a letter addressed [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], which had been written as a consequence of [REDACTED] activity in preventing CHARLES LINDBERGH from using the Oklahoma City Public Auditorium to make an address on behalf of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE. This letter is not set out in full but is quoted in part as follows: "Along about August 26, 1941 you were quoted by the Chicago Tribune as having said 'we are not denying the right of free speech but refusing to rent a public building for a speech by LINDBERGH'" [REDACTED] went on to state that this was "small-minded and petty" on the part of Oklahoma City officials. There is nothing of further consequence in this letter except a general denunciation of the city officials in refusing use of the auditorium for this speech.

1/22/42

[REDACTED] also furnished this office with a postcard addressed [REDACTED] which reads as follows: "Your stupid refusal to allow CHARLES LINDBERGH to use the auditorium insures the fact that I will never speak well of nor spend money in your town."

476/1

These two pieces of correspondence are being retained in the files of the Oklahoma City Field Division.

Various newspaper reports have recently shown a large number of the AMERICA FIRST leaders to have made statements indicating that the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE would be disbanded. A letter appearing in the Tulsa, Oklahoma Tribune on December 8, 1941, by MACK SHERODES, Chairman of the Tulsa Chapter of this Committee, stated that "if I were a Congressman I would vote for war today." He further stated, "there's no further use of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE now unless we can help our country. We've all got to help -- LINDBERGH and Senator WHEELER and Governor MURRAY and myself."

Inasmuch as it appears that the activities of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE are now discontinued this case is being closed but will be reopened if information is later received indicating further activity of this organization.

- CLOSED -



**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
**POST OFFICE BOX 812**  
**Chicago, Illinois**  
**January 22, 1942**

b7c

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: AMERICA FIRST - CHICAGO  
INTERNAL SECURITY

b7c

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated January 14, 1942 in the above entitled matter, Bureau file 100-4712, which inquires as to what steps have been taken in connection with Bureau letter dated November 7, 1941 in the same matter.

Please be advised that a separate internal security case has been opened in this office wherein [REDACTED] has been made the subject, same being based upon the information contained in the Bureau letter of November 7, 1941, above referred to.

b7c

b7D

Please be advised that this matter will be followed and the Bureau advised upon the completion of this investigation.

Very truly yours,

A. H. JOHNSON,  
Special Agent in Charge

100-4712-3  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
17 JAN 28 1942  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/21/90 BY SP8 BTJ/CL

10-16-90 SP8 BTJ/CL

9 FEB 17 1942  
9 FEB 17 1942

100-668  
cc - File 100-6110

CONFIDENTIAL  
CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DEPARTMENT  
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, G-2  
Washington, D. C.

FEB 3 1942

Subject: Letter of transmittal.

To: Lt. Col. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

The attached communications are forwarded for your information and such action as you consider advisable.

RAYMOND E. LEE,  
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,  
Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

1 Enclosures:

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____
Files	_____

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100-4712-275

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

FBI  
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9 APR 1 1942

Declassified per Army  
letter dtd 5/29/91  
8123 mch/ter 8-12-91



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR DEPARTMENT

M. I. D.

WID 201

America First Committee

1-22-42

62/01  
201

January 21, 1942  
(Date)

Subject: America First Committee Meeting.

Summary of Information:

Reference is made to copy of letter dated January 3, 1942, Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Governors Island, New York, subject, Charles Lindbergh—America First, distributed by this office on January 14, 1942.

Additional information has been received from a reliable source indicating that it has now been established that the report of this meeting was transmitted to the Committee to Defend Democracy by Aiding the Allies, 8 West 40th Street, New York City, New York. The author of the report did not attend the meeting himself but obtained the information contained in the report from three individuals present; this information has also been checked through another confidential source and is substantially correct. Mr. Lindbergh's remarks were extemporaneous and made in a hesitant manner and poorly connected fashion as he was obviously unprepared, and, furthermore, both he and Edwin S. Webster evidently knew that some of the persons present were informants, and that on different occasions Mr. Lindbergh had been warned by Webster to be careful in his remarks. Although the names of the members of the party who gave out the information are not available, it can be assumed from various indications that Horace Haas was the real author of this memorandum.

The informant further advises that there is another much longer report of this meeting which was prepared by other informants, and it has been offered at various places and at various prices. This latter report is obviously incorrect even though it has had a wide circulation.

*Declassified by Agency  
Letter dated 5/29/91  
8123-mch/ky 8-12-91*

Previous Distribution:

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- 1 - O.N.I.
- 1 - File

Evaluation

-of source	-of information
<u>  I  </u> Reliable	<u>  I  </u>
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<u>      </u> Undetermined	

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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**CONFIDENTIAL**  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, N. Y.

February 10, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: America First Movement

Dear Sir:

For the information of the Bureau, I am  
enclosing herein a copy of a confidential communica-  
tion dated January 31, 1942, received from [redacted]  
[redacted] Assistant Chief of Staff,  
Headquarters Third Corps Area, Baltimore, Md.

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth  
P. E. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director.

enc.

FOI/PA #	262359
APPEAL #	
CIVIL ACTION #	
E.O. #	2359
DATE	5/12/84
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FEB 25 '42

COPY IN FILE

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100-4712-279
FEB 11 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CORPS AREA  
UNITED STATES ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-2  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE-PUBLIC RELATIONS  
SEVENTH FLOOR STANDARD OIL BUILDING  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

RSU/gw

(I)  
(1-31-42)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In reply refer to  
File: III-1430

January 31, 1942

SUBJECT: America First Movement

Summary of Information:

1. It is believed that the America First group in the East under the leadership of the Coughlin followers are soon to come out with a new outfit. When they do, John L. Lewis will openly approve. Lewis has been receiving praise from the Coughlin followers recently and this praise is being used in almost every section of the country. According to the reports from the C.I.O. at Washington, the group has carefully set up the country into districts. They have revised all the mailing lists and in addition, they have made arrangements with other groups, which can be classified as pro-Nazi, for an exchange of a mailing list. This arrangement is now in effect and many of these pro-Nazi groups are circularizing so-called patriots with the sale of literature, etc. These lists are not being carelessly handled because of the fear that some may demand a government investigation of their activities. However, it has been learned that America First and their so-called supporting groups have now a secret mailing list of eight million, four hundred and seventy-six thousand names of people in this country. A vast number of this list are on the west coast and lately a great many of the foreign speaking groups have been circularized. There is no doubt but that certain sections of names from the major list have been used in sending out this mail.

Philip L. Thurber  
Colonel, G. S. C.  
A. C. of S., G-2

F. B. I.

FEB 2 1942

N. Y. C.

ROUTED TO

FILE

Distribution:

"F", "I", "J."

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Evaluation  
of

source

information

Reliable	_____
Credible	_____
Questionable	_____
Undetermined	_____ X

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100-4712-279

Declassified per Army  
letter dtd 5/29/91  
8123mch/tyg 8/12/91

O

D

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

February 11, 1942

MEMORANDUM  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECT

[REDACTED] b7E b7D

Dear Sir:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-16-90 BY SP8BTS/coc

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated November 26, 1941 (100-4712) concerning a former Bureau letter dated July 5, 1941, in which this office was requested to discreetly determine the identity of the Subject.

I have caused a thorough search to be made of the files and indices of this office, but I am unable to locate Bureau letter of July 5, 1941, referred to.

I have delayed answering Bureau letter of November 26, 1941, in the hope that Bureau letter of July 5, 1941, may be located. However, it is my opinion that this letter has not been received at this office.

It is requested that the Bureau immediately advise this office of the nature and contents of the letter of July 5, 1941; and I shall see that the instructions contained therein are promptly carried out.

Yours very truly,

FILE COPY

J. F. SEARS,  
Special Agent in Charge

100-4712-280 b7c

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100-4712

February 9, 1942

Special Agent in Charge  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Sir:

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECT

INTERNAL SECURITY

Reference is made to Bureau letters dated July 5, 1941 and November 26, 1941, in the above captioned matter.

A review of the Bureau file fails to reflect that you have given any attention whatsoever to the previous Bureau request. In view of the extreme and unreasonable delinquency in this regard, you are directed to advise by return mail the date that you expect to give coverage to this matter.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/22/86 BY SP-6 BJK/Key

COMMUNICATIONS

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100-4712-282

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FEB 13 1942

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson

Mr. E. A. Tamm

Mr. Clegg

Mr. Coffey

Mr. Glavin

Mr. Ladd

Mr. Nichols

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Tracy

Mr. Carson

Mr. Gurnea

Mr. Hendon

Mr. Pennington

Mr. Quinn

Mr. Nease

Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 3

FEB 12 1942 \*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEB 17 1942

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.**

KPM  
Time: 2:40 P.M.

January 28, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KRASNER

Re: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE,  
REPORTED SPEECH OF  
CHARLES A. LINDBERGH

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

At the time indicated above, the writer called Special Agent [redacted] of the New York Office relative to the item appearing in the Washington Merry-Go-Round and published January 28, 1942, in the New York Daily Mirror, which article indicated that Charles A. Lindbergh addressed a meeting of one-time members of the America First Committee at a place formerly known as the German-American Rothschilder in New York City. This speech was reported in this article to have been made December 19, 1941.

[redacted] was requested to make available immediately any information which might be in the possession of the New York Office concerning the remarks reportedly made by Lindbergh on December 19, 1941, in which remarks he allegedly blamed England for the present war and advised America Firsters "to bide their time."

[redacted] later called the writer at 4:25 P.M. on January 28, 1942, at which time he advised that the New York office had no information whatsoever indicating that Lindbergh had addressed such a group on December 19, 1941. He stated that should any information come to the attention of the New York Office indicating that such a speech had been made the Bureau would be immediately advised.

Respectfully,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5/27/86 BY SP8 BTJ/CL

10-16-90

E. P. Morgan

23 FEB 17 1942

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February 13, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

Available information concerning the America First Committee has not resulted from active investigation but has been either voluntarily submitted without solicitation or has been extracted from articles which have appeared in the press. Because of this limitation, a full and complete analysis of the organization cannot be presented.

Only a brief reference to the professed principles and objectives of the America First Committee will be made. The Committee declared that the most complete presentation of its views was set forth in a speech entitled "Our Foreign Policy" delivered by Acting Chairman General Robert E. Wood on October 4, 1940, before the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations. General Wood contended that the ideology of the totalitarian states, which it is alleged must be destroyed, cannot be destroyed by war; that our protection does not depend upon Britain; that if we are properly prepared internally we need have no fear of invasion even though Britain falls; and that a German-dominated Europe would not destroy our foreign trade nor would it be impossible for our presently existing economic order to compete with such a Europe. From this, it follows that intervention is not only non-essential, but should be prevented at all costs in order to avoid the attendant financial loss and destruction of life.

The objective of the Committee then becomes one of bringing together all those who concur in the opinion that pressure should be brought from all directions against the United States' entry into the war. The Committee contends that the course presently being pursued by the Government will inevitably lead us into the war, and that this is being done without the masses' knowledge, 86 per cent of whom in October, 1940, were opposed to entry into the war. The Committee has announced through its representative that it favors the administration's rearmament program and supports the policy of giving Britain all possible aid as long as such aid does not tend in any way to directly involve the United States in the European conflict.

5/14/86 Multiple Sources  
Classified by: [illegible]  
Declassify on: OADR  
10-17-90  
Multiple Sources  
39,519

100-4712-284	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
1	FEB 18 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
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pg. 16 paragraph 4  
remains unclassified per DOJ  
letter dtd 5/30/91  
8/23 mch/tar 8/19/91

pg. 5-1 information  
declassified 4/2/91  
Army letter dtd 5/1/91  
8/23 mch/tar 8/19/91

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ORGANIZATION

Origin

The America First Committee was incorporated in the State of Illinois on September 19, 1940. Its national headquarters have always been located at 1806 Board of Trade Building, Chicago, Illinois. The publications of the Committee fail to disclose the individuals who conceived the idea of such a Committee and the precise reasons for its creation. The officers and directors at the time of its founding consisted of the following:

Officers

Acting Chairman

- General Robert E. Wood of Chicago, Illinois; graduate of West Point; present Chairman of the Board of Directors of Sears, Roebuck and Company.

National Director  
and Secretary

- E. Douglas Stuart, Jr.; son of E. Douglas Stuart of the Quaker Oats Company; senior in the Yale Law School prior to the time he became associated with the America First Committee.

Treasurer

- J. Sanford Otis; Vice President of the Central Republic Bank of Chicago.

Board of Directors

Manford MacKider

- Mason City, Iowa; banker; former National Commander of the American Legion; former Assistant Secretary of War, 1925-1928.

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General Thomas Hammond

- Quincy, Illinois; retired United States Army Officer; President of the Packing Corporation, crane and heavy equipment manufacturers; Chairman of the Republican Party in Illinois.

J. C. Hermal

- Formerly associated with the Hermal meat packing company of Austin, Minnesota.

Clay Judson

- Chicago, Illinois; attorney; Former President of the Chicago Council of Foreign Relations; Member of the Board of Trustees of United Charities, Chicago, Illinois.

A pamphlet issued by the Committee in October, 1940, lists members of the National Committee, among whom were the following:

General Robert E. Wood  
J. Sanford Otis  
Janet Ayer Fairbank  
J. C. Hermal  
Clay Judson  
Captain Edward Rickenbacker  
Leasing J. Rosenwald  
Harford MacNider

R. Douglas Stuart, Jr.  
Mrs. Bennett Champ Clark  
Henry Ford  
General Hugh S. Johnson  
Alice Roosevelt Longworth  
Mrs. Burton K. Wheeler  
General Thomas Hammond

Dr. Anton Julius Carlson

- University of Chicago Professor and member of the Civil Liberties Union; a national pacifist of alleged decidedly left wing sympathies.

William H. Castle

- Former Assistant Secretary of State and Ambassador to Japan.

John T. Flynn

- Author of "Country Squire in the White House."

Kathryn Lewis

- Daughter of John L. Lewis

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Thomas H. McCarter

Former Attorney General of New Jersey and President of the Public Service Corporation of New Jersey; Director of the Chase National Bank and other financial companies,

Sterling Morton

- Morton Salt Company

William H. Rognery

- Chicago millionaire

Edward L. Ryerson, Jr.

- Chairman of the Board of Inland Steel.

Louis J. Tabor

- Nationally known agriculturalist

Dr. George M. Whipple

- Noted pathologist

On April 28, 1941, Social Justice announced that Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh had joined the America First Committee. (100-4481 "The Hour", newsletter, Anti-Nazi)

With reference to the Committee's founding,

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[redacted] expressed the opinion that the Committee was set up in opposition to the propaganda being disseminated by the William Allen White Committee. This informant pointed out that Colonel Lindbergh and [redacted] both had considerable influence with Colonel Robert M. McCormick, editor and publisher of the Chicago Tribune, whom they induced to take an interest in the organization. (100-4712-10; [redacted])

This informant also expressed the opinion that the Committee at the time of its founding was unquestionably patriotic. He stated that because of the liberalism expressed by some of the members, William J. Grace, Avery Brundage, and W. H. Rognery severed their connections with the Committee. [redacted]

[redacted] submitted a memorandum dated January 17, 1941, which alleged that in the summer of 1940, Senator and Mrs. Burton K. Wheeler and Dorothy Detzer, Director of the Women's International League for Peace

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and associate of J. P. Flynn, publisher of "Unincensored", interested General Wood in the formation of such an organization. Also mentioned in connection with its founding was a so-called pacifist radical monthly called "Equality", in the September issue of which appeared Senator Wheeler's "Defend America First" article and John L. Lewis' article against conscription. This source reported that the Washington, D. C., group of the Committee was organized and directed by Dorothy Detzer and William R. Castle. It is to be noted that Dorothy Detzer is said to consider herself the "brains" of the America First Committee. (by L.M.C. Smith)

John L. Spivak in his series of articles entitled "America First Exposed" which appeared in the September 30, October 7, and October 14, 1941, issues of "New Masses", declared that the idea for the formation of such a Committee was born in the mind of R. Douglas Stuart, Jr., who interested General R. E. Wood, William H. Regnery, "a Chicago multi-millionaire", and Clay Johnson in such a movement. Spivak contended that Lindbergh was not named on the original Committee because of his reputation for being strongly pro-Nazi.

#### Membership and Promotion

According to Spivak, the scope of the Committee is nationwide and Robert L. Elias, formerly Director of Organization in the National Office and now Director of the New York Chapter, stated that there are about 250 chapters of the America First Committee and 750 units throughout the country. When questioned as to the number of members, the Managing Director R. Douglas Stuart, Jr., estimated that there were about 3,000,000. This figure, however was unsubstantiated by any fact, and was considered by Spivak to be greatly exaggerated. (New Masses, Oct. 7, p. 9)

In some states the activities have been sufficiently extensive to warrant state incorporation as was the case in California, New York, and Missouri. It appears that all units recognize the national headquarters and profess to follow the same principles and objectives, although the activities vary in different sections, depending upon the tendencies and influence of the sectional leaders. In view of the speeches and public addresses given by representatives of the Committee, it would appear that all sections of the

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country have been influenced by the Committee and that efforts of the Committee have been concentrated in the population centers of the nation.

John L. Spivak contended that "The America First Committee, while trying to create the impression that it has a large mass following is run and chiefly financed by a small clique of 'smart money' boys." To substantiate this contention, Spivak refers to the number of wealthy individuals who are members of the National Committee and to other wealthy patrons among whom are Ernest T. Weir, Chairman of the National Steel Corporation; H. L. Stuart, President of Halsey, Stuart, and Company, Chicago; and Max W. Babb, President of Allis-Chalmers. (New Masses, 9/30)

With reference to the promotional activities of the Committee, it is to be noted that it contends that all work of the Committee is purely voluntary. This was said to be true of the speakers of the organization as well as the organizers. However, Spivak points out that many of the lecturers and speakers are paid for their services even though such speakers are members of the Committee. It has been reported that at the time Ben Lubbock organized a unit of the America First Committee in Oklahoma, he stated that he had formerly been an organizer for the American Peace Mobilization but had been induced to work for the America First Committee because it had greater funds with which to finance promotional work. Within the past two months, an informant has advised that the Committee has recently been compelled to terminate the services of some of its paid organizers through lack of funds and has been called upon to accept financial assistance from pro-Nazi sources. (Sent 1, 100-4712; [redacted])

Sent 2, 3, New Masses; Sent 4, 61-10498-875, [redacted]  
[redacted] Sent 5, #2)

There has been no indication that the America First Committee has at any time submitted financial statements or given any other information concerning the extent of its resources. Spivak opens his series of articles with the statement that "the America First Committee has received a minimum of over \$1,000,000 from unidentified sources for its propaganda work." Spivak explained that the Committee refused to make available any financial statistics other than the fact that the Chicago office alone,

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For instance, collected \$251,000 during a ten-month period, and the New York Chapter, \$112,000 in a six-month period. Using what he considered to be conservative estimates with regard to the other Chapters throughout the country, Spivak concluded that the America First Committee raised over \$1,000,000 during the past year. The Chicago office reported that of the \$251,000 collected during the ten-month period ending on June, 1, 1941, \$207,000 was spent of which \$42,000 was allocated to pay roll for the Chicago office alone. (New Masses, Oct. 7)

After repeatedly refusing the New York Herald Tribune's request for a list of the names of the contributors to the America First Committee, General Wood finally made available a partial list. He explained that numerous contributors had preferred not to have their names mentioned. (New Masses, Oct. 7)

It does not appear how successful the Committee has been in raising funds by nationwide appeals either through circulars and publications of the Committee or through public addresses and radio. There is evidence that funds have been received from organizations with Nazi and Communist connections, specific instances of which will be set forth hereinafter.

#### ACTIVITIES AND CONNECTIONS

The following information will relate primarily to activities and connections of the Committee which have been subjected to adverse criticism by the press and radio, or which have been allegedly associated with foreign subversive elements. An attempt will be made to separate the information set forth into first: that pertaining to activities and connections relating to organizations, individuals, and movements which can be described as being internal in nature and not directly connected with any foreign source, and secondly: that dealing with activities and connections which are either connected with, or directly influenced by, groups or interests such as the Nazis, Communists, Fascists, and others which are associated with forces essentially foreign.

#### Internal

#### Anti-Administration Issue

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The most highly publicized and perhaps most representative activities of the National Committee are carried out by the sponsorship of meetings and rallies at which designated representatives of the Committee set forth the official views of that body. Such public declarations of the Committee's policies and views of necessity have been carefully considered by the Committee and have, therefore, contained nothing pertinent to this memorandum. Attention, however, is called to the fact that there is a discernible trend toward a more radical expression of opinion on the part of official representatives of the Committee which has resulted in much adverse criticism. During the first eight months of the Committee's existence, the speakers have confined themselves chiefly to a criticism of the President's foreign policy with occasional charges that the Administration's foreign policy was pro-British, rather than pro-American. Pamphlets of the America First Committee raised the question "Are You Ready to Make the United States a Dictatorship?" and referred to the Lend-Lease Bill as a "war dictatorship bill."

During the past four months, however, prominent speakers of the Committee such as Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh, Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana, Senator Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota, and former Governor Philip F. La Follette of Wisconsin, have inserted statements in their speeches which have resulted in their having the label "subversive" attached to their declarations. In his Des Moines speech on September 16, 1941, Lindbergh openly declared that the United States was being drawn into the European conflict by "the British, the Jews, and the Roosevelt Administration", openly raising for the first time the anti-Semitic issue. This reference to the Jews resulted in criticism of the Committee from all sections of the country. The Chicago Daily News of September 23, 1941, quoted Senator Nye as saying that the "foreign-born magnates of the Jewish faith" were primarily responsible for "propaganda" in the films. In his Fort Wayne, Indiana, speech on October 2, 1941, Colonel Lindbergh declared that that speech might be his last. He also declared that the end of free election was in sight and stated, "We must face the fact that you and I and our generation have lost our American heritage." (100-4712-A, Extracts from news clipping)

This same charge - that the American people might expect to have the 1942 election suspended - was made by former Governor Philip F. La Follette on November 1, 1941, in a speech delivered in Washington, D. C. In this speech, La Follette was said to have openly called for an insurrection by

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"Fearless red-blooded Americans to overthrow the 'War Party' government ..... and to have stated that ".....if the administration using a 'rubber stamp Congress' tries to postpone elections, we, the real 'American Party', will call upon all real Americans to fight for their freedom right here as their forefathers fought in the revolution." (100-4712-189, [redacted])

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It is to be noted that the Washington Times Herald of July 24, 1941, reported that the America First Committee had adopted a resolution recommending the removal of Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox for allegedly advocating that the United States Navy intervene in the war at that time.

(100-4712-1, 8/14/41)

Reference is made to an article appearing in the Pasadena Independence (California) of June 16, 1941, covering an America First rally in that city. Charles Cobb, Acting Chairman of the group, declared in his address that he did not believe a British victory possible or desirable, and outlined his belief in the theory that the world is destined to be controlled by the new world forces, consisting of the three great centers of power - Europe, Asia, and the Americas. He also made reference to former Ambassador Gidday's declaration that at no time had Hitler's statements indicated an intention inimical to the United States. He described Czechoslovakia as a dagger pointed at the heart of Germany. The above remarks suggest a Nazi propaganda source. Another speaker at this same meeting, Dr. Michael Francis Dillon, objected to the use of the United States troops in breaking the strike at the North American Aircraft Corporation at Inglewood, California, and the proposed use of concentration camps for handling conscientious objectors. The Federal Bureau of Investigation was paralleled to the Gestapo, and the Dies Committee was described as a tool of the FBI.

(100-4712-76)

In connection with this phase of the Committee's activities, reference is made to the alleged use of the franking privilege by Senators Wheeler and Nye. Spivak particularly stressed this matter and the "New Masses" carried photographs of a franked envelope of Senator Nye, which envelope set forth that the enclosed letter contained an "extension of remarks by Hon. Gerald P. Nye" concerning the "Radio address delivered by Theodore F. Woffmann, National Chairman, Steuben Society of America." Also shown was an envelope with Senator Wheeler's frank pertaining to material of the same nature which he had read into the Congressional Record.

(New Masses, Oct. 7)

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Reference is also made to an article in the Washington Times Herald of September 26, 1941, which tells of franked mail being subpoenaed from the offices of the America First Washington headquarters. This mail, which bore the franks of seven non-interventionist Congressmen, was said to have been moved from the offices of Prescott Bennett, Secretary of the Make Europe Pay Committee, to the America First headquarters just prior to seizure. (100-4712-1)

#### Interference With Armed Forces

During the past four months, several different sources have submitted information charging the America First Committee with the sponsorship of a campaign directed toward creating disharmony within the ranks of the army forces. A confidential source on July 6, 1941, reported that the America First Committee within the Ninth Corps Area District of the Army appeared to be falling under the control of the radical elements who were conducting anti-war propaganda campaigns near army posts in that area. Still another source reported on April 23, 1941, that a member of the crew of the U.S.S. SIMS, a United States Destroyer, had been active aboard ship in inducing twelve enlisted men to join the America First Committee. (61-7559-11760) (S-1)(X)

On July 15, 1941, an informant advised the Bureau that the Chicago, Illinois, section of the Committee was said to be circularizing the parents, relatives, and wives of the men in the armed forces with a view toward enlisting their support in the movement. Another source reported that in Westchester County, New York, near Fort Slocum, the America First Committee had distributed folding post cards which were sent to parents and relatives of the enlisted men, one side of which could be detached and mailed to the soldiers. These post cards made an emotional appeal, stressing the hardship and loss of life attendant upon our entry into this war. (100-7660-178, Sept. 1941, G-2, report of the 2nd Corps Area) (S-1)(X)

On July 23, 1941, an enlistee told of a clerk in the America First Committee office in New Rochelle, New York, expressing the opinion in that office that she sympathized with members of the service who deserted and encouraged the spreading of America First propaganda among the armed forces. (100-4712-107, G-2) (S-1)(X)

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On September 26, 1941, it was confidentially learned that an America First Committee employee, named J. Guy Jueneman was distributing anti-war propaganda among soldiers in the New York area around Fort Dix. Jueneman was said to be a former officer of the German-American Bund.

(S-1)(R)

#### Anti-Semitic Connections

While the anti-Semitic issue did not break out openly until Lindbergh's Des Moines address in September, there is considerable indication that certain individuals connected with the Committee and certain so-called American Fascist groups which supported the Committee were using the Committee as an instrument for advancing their anti-Jewish theories. John Spivak charged that the following individuals, interested in the Committee at the time of its founding, are all anti-Semitic - Henry Ford, Sterling Morton, William Castle, and Avery Brundage. He contended that The America First Director of Organization admitted that Brundage was dropped from the Committee because of his anti-Semitic reputation. He pointed out that Morton was known to have financed Jung's American Vigilant Intelligence Federation which distributed the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion." He also called attention to a letter written by William Castle in which he expressed his dislike of the Jews. (New Masses, 9/30; PM 5/16/41)

Spivak also charged that the Committee has several anti-Semites on its lecture staff. He called particular attention to the fact that Reverend Edward Lodge Curran, who is described as Father Coughlin's chief apostle in the East and who has been said to have worked with such groups as the German-American Bund, German-American Business League, the American Nationalists, and the Citizens' Protective League, gave the invocation at the Brooklyn America First rally on May 14, 1941. Spivak also alleged that on December 9, 1940, Mrs. Barbara McDonald, head of the Speaker's Bureau of the Committee's National office, wrote to Edward James Smythe, of the Protestant War Veterans, thanking him for agreeing to speak at the Philadelphia America First meeting on December 16th. Smythe was described as a vicious anti-Semite who has openly boasted of arranging a joint meeting with the Ku Klux Klan and the German-American Bund at Camp Nordland.

(New Masses, Oct. 7, 1941, issue, p.6)

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"The Hour", an alleged confidential newsletter sponsored by the American Council Against Nazi Propaganda, Incorporated, and supported by the Anti-Defamation League has devoted a great deal of space in an effort to establish the connection between the America First Committee and anti-Semitic forces in the country. In the April 26, 1941, issue, "The Hour" calls attention to the number of outstanding leaders of alleged subversive groups who attended the America First rally held at Manhattan Center on April 23, 1941. The following were named: (100-4481-6; [REDACTED])

August Klapprott, Bund leader now out on bail after conviction in New Jersey on charges of incitement to hate; Gustav Elmer, treasurer of the Bund; Lawrence Dennis, well-known fascist 'theoretician', author of 'The Coming American Fascism'; George A. Van Nostrand, Bund member, former president of the Crusaders for Americanism; Edward James Smythe, intimate of Bundites, KKK leader, staunch Hitlerite and violent anti-Semite; Mrs. Leonora Schuyler (on platform), bigwig in the Allied Patriotic Society, frequenter of Christian Front and Mobilizer meetings; Mrs. Cooper, a leader in the fascist Paul Revere Sentinels, a friend and co-worker of Mrs. Schuyler; Edward Ranta, former witness before the Dies Committee, now employed by the American Women Against Communism, a fascist organization; James Stewart, street-corner speaker of the Christian Mobilizers and member of their inner-council; Daniel Morgan, bodyguard of the American Destiny Party leader, Joseph McWilliams; James McGee, Christian Front propagandist; Edmund Burke, Christian Mobilizer speaker and organizer, a jailbird; George F. Boian, leading member of the U.S. branch of the Roumanian Iron Guard, disseminator of pro-Nazi propaganda; Reverend Herbert Lewis, Bund and Christian Front member; and dozens of other similar gentry."

In other issues of this publication, bitter attacks are made against Father Coughlin's Social Justice group and Joseph McWilliams' American Destiny Party, both of which are said to support the America First Committee. (100-4481; Issue of the Hour)

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Because of Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh's activities on behalf of the America First Committee and his alleged interest in "Scribner's Commentator", it is significant that Spivak stated that at the time he interviewed John T. Flynn, the New York America First Chapter's Chairman, Flynn mistakenly stated that he thought Charles S. Teyson, a publisher of "Scribner's Commentator" as a member of the Directing Board of the America First Committee. "Scribner's Commentator" has been described as the mouthpiece of Colonel Lindbergh and as being notoriously anti-Semitic.

(New Masses, 9/30)  
Information has been received associating the notorious American Fascist, Merwin K. Hart, with the America First Committee. On May 22, 1941, a confidential informant advised that

This informant told of

(b)-1461-72;

It is to be noted that the September 30, 1941, issue of the "Masses" contains a photograph of a letter from R. Douglas Stuart, Jr., an America First letterhead stationery to Merwin K. Hart, President of the New York Economic Council, in which Stuart wrote that while he did not wish to openly associate his organization with that of Hart he did think "it is imperative that we work together on these things." Stuart added, "I will let you know the name of the man who will be Chairman of our New York Chapter within a few days. I hope you will be able to work with him." Spivak pointed out that Hart is considered a prominent pro-Fascist who cooperated with Franco agents during the Spanish Civil War.

#### FOREIGN INFLUENCE

It is to be noted that the America First Committee has stated in its sponsored literature and statements for the press that it refuses to accept in its membership any persons connected with any foreign subversive groups such as the Nazis, Fascists, or Communists. However, many sources

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have submitted information bearing upon the alleged connection between the Committee and various foreign subversive elements. No information has been received indicating that this Committee was connected in any way with any foreign elements at the time of its founding.

[REDACTED] b7D

Nazi [REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED] b7C/b

On September 11, 1941, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was questioned concerning German propaganda activities in this country. [REDACTED] stated that he believed the leading propaganda organization was the America First Committee which worked in direct accord with the German ideas. He stated that this Committee was at that time the only effective propaganda agency in the United States and advised that the chief problem of the German Government was to keep the Committee advised of all available propaganda. How this was accomplished he did not state. [REDACTED] also explained that the German-American Board of Trade has succeeded the Germany Library of Information as the official German propaganda instrumentality. It is to be noted that it was reported on March 3, 1941, that a lecturer for the America First Committee named Harry Elmer Barnes, one of the editorial sponsors of "Uncensored", was said to have written to [REDACTED] urging him to publish the German White Book's attack on former Ambassador, b7C William Bullitt. (65-6225-306, [REDACTED] 61-7632-415, interview with SA [REDACTED])

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of NY Field Division; 100-4712-171, [REDACTED]  
On June 16, 1941, information was confidentially received to the effect that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (100-4712-71X, [REDACTED]) b7C b7D

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During July of 1941 information was received to the effect that the mailing list of the German Library of Information had been turned over to the America First Committee. The New York Herald Tribune of July 26, 1941, carried an article which related that Newton Billany, a writer residing at Reading, Massachusetts, had made public two envelopes received by him which bore identical misspellings of his name and the same post office box numbers. One contained propaganda received from the America First Committee while the other, which had been received some months previous, contained literature from the German Library of Information. When questioned concerning this coincidence, a spokesman for the America First Committee declared that the misspelled name had been sent to the Committee by a private individual in February and that it would require an extensive search through the Committee's files to determine the name of this individual. A resident of [redacted] on November 11, 1941, pointed to a similar incident which involved the same misspelling of his middle initial. (61-7557-242; 100-4712-A, July 26, 1941; 100-52308-1, [redacted])

It is to be noted that the pro-Nazi publication, Deutscher Neckruf and Beobachter and Free American, has been carrying advertisements and has encouraged its readers to enroll with the America First Committee, as have two other German language newspapers in Bismarck, North Dakota, and San Francisco, California. On May 3, 1941, [redacted] b7c b7D California, told of having received in an envelope of the German-American National Alliance of Chicago, an alleged German propaganda agency, a circular entitled "Peace for America" which contained an appeal for contributions for the America First Committee. (61-6566-2621, [redacted] b7c b7D (102-2-27-1))

Attention has recently been called to a pamphlet entitled "The America First Committee - The Nazi Transmission Belt" which has been published by the Friends of Democracy, Incorporated, whose National Director L. M. Birkhead, is said to be sponsoring this organization for the purpose of counteracting anti-Semitic propaganda. (100-12412-A)

This pamphlet quotes from Senator Wheeler's speech of March 3, 1941, as follows:

"Now we find these same international bankers with their friends the royal refugees and with the Sassoons of the Orient and with the Rothschilds and Wargurgs of Europe in another theme song.... 'Our investments in India, Africa, and Europe must be preserved. Save Democracy!'"

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and from Senator Nye's speech to the Senate on March 4, 1941:

"The greatest aggressor in all modern history has been the British Empire...The Empire is the despotic, arbitrary and sometimes tyrannical rule over almost half a billion people... It is this Empire that is calling us in the name of democracy."

These two remarks are paralleled to similar language used by Hitler. This publication also points out that the German-American National Alliance of Chicago in its literature calls upon its members to work through the America First Committee. The charge is also made that John B. Snow of New York City, allegedly a former distributor of "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion" which set forth an elaborate Jewish formula for establishing Jewish world domination, has recently been distributing copies of the America First pamphlet entitled "Our Foreign Policy".

(100-4712-153)

Information has been received regarding a printed report dated October 10, 1941, prepared by the American Legion on the "Subversive Activities in the America First Committee in California." This report was said to have been prepared in view of the striking similarity between the Nazi propaganda technique and the America First methods of operation, in California. The Legion pointed out that this matter was called to the attention of General R. E. Wood but that no action was taken on his part.

To establish its contention, the Legion report lists numerous "typical channels of subversive propaganda in California" which consist of certain German-American Bund groups and book stores located in the Los Angeles area, and points out how their propaganda compares with that of the America First Committee. It then names several individuals who have been publicly connected with various German propaganda movements and who have recently been associated with the America First Committee Activities. The Legion concludes that "there is every indication that they have joined the America First movement for the express purpose of presenting their subversive propaganda to those sincere isolationists who have been attracted to America First." (Attached to cover letter from LMC Smith, dated

November 22, 1941)

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[REDACTED], reported that the automobile of Dr. George Gyseling, the German Consul, was seen parked in front of the office of the America First Committee on the day that its offices were opened in Los Angeles on January 16, 1941.

With reference to the America First activities in Los Angeles, it was reported in February, 1941, that the Chairman of the Los Angeles branch was John L. Wheeler, son of Senator Wheeler. A confidential informant told of John Wheeler and his wife attending a party on February 4, 1941, at the home of Paul von Gontard, German espionage suspect, at which Mrs. Wheeler had allegedly remarked that "the only way we can be safe is to see the pins knocked out from under Britain." The informant pointed out that the Wheelers associated with several suspected espionage agents as a result of which Mrs. Wheeler had become inculcated with pro-German doctrines. Among those associates was one Hans Wolfram who was said to be connected with publicity activities in New York City and Washington, D. C., on behalf of the German Embassy. This informant further advised that Paul von Gontard at this gathering displayed a \$2,000 cashier's check drawn on the St. Louis Trust Company, St. Louis, Missouri, which he turned over to John Wheeler as a contribution to the America First Committee. It is to be noted that Paul von Gontard is said to be a brother of Adelbert von Gontard, an official of the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Company in St. Louis, who is presently under investigation as a German espionage suspect. (S-1)(C)

(100-4712-X; OMI)  
Information was also received from San Francisco which alleged that Dr. Hugh Parkinson, a member of the Board of Directors of the America First Committee in San Francisco, was said to frequently contact Fritz Weidemann, German Consul General. (66-2542-3-347-208) [REDACTED]  
San Francisco)

On May 6, 1941, a confidential source supplied a photostatic copy of a check drawn on the United States National Bank of Portland, Oregon, by the "German War Veterans, by [REDACTED] payable to the America First Committee. [REDACTED] was reported to be a German-American Bund member. (100-36444-1) b7c

(S-1)(C)  
The Philadelphia Ledger of April 22, 1941, carried an article reporting that Mrs. Edith Scott of Philadelphia declared that the National

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Page 18

Legion of Mothers and Women of America, an affiliate of the America First Committee, had under consideration inviting women associated with the Kyffhause Band into its membership. An informant pointed out that at a meeting of the America First Committee held in Philadelphia on May 29, 1941, there were several representatives of the German-American Kontrol Band of Pennsylvania on the speakers' stand inside the arena, among whom were Gustav F. Mickal, President of the Philadelphia Section of that Band, and Leopold Syre. Also in attendance was a member of the German Consulate in Philadelphia. (100-4712-A; dated 4/22/41) (100-47)

A confidential informant on May 26, 1941, advised that Dr. Fleischman, a member of the America First Committee, had addressed a meeting of the United German Societies held at the New York Turn Hall. (61-9879-268, From Phila Field, unknown)

(S) (65-8857-181)

On July 30, 1941, a confidential source made available a summary of information furnished by an informant who was said to be reliable. This informant alleged that the America First Committee had recently formed in New York City an "Investigation Unit", under the direction of one George Krangell. Krangell, who is alleged to be a White Russian and influential among the Russian emigre and French refugee groups, was said to be openly pro-German and pro-Nazi and has been connected with German Band and German Government circles. This informant further stated that the Bundists are operating as volunteer workers in the dissemination of anti-interventionist literature published by the America First Committee. The "Investigation Unit" referred to above is said to be the creation of Mr. Bronson Batchelor, this informant also mentioned the fact that the America First Committee has been operating with certain Band agents in a campaign of contacting the parents (S-X)

~~SECRET~~ 284

SECR

of draftees and enlistees with the view toward agitating against the national defense program and the extension of the period of military service. (100-4712-122\* (G-2, Governor's Island, NY)

It is to be noted that another informant advised that Baron von Wrangell had been sent by the America First Committee to debate before a Man's Christian Forum in Bronxville, New York, on the subject "What Is the Christian Attitude Toward America's Entry Into the War?" This informant stated that the forum group was highly incensed because of von Wrangell's position on the foreign issue. (61-10498-539; Letter from

(S-1) [X] It is further to be noted that information was received on September 26, 1941, that J. Guy Jueneman, an active organizer for the America First Committee in the New York area and a former officer and recognized leader of the German-American Bund, was said to be enrolling Bund members in the Committee. In this connection it was reported in May, 1941, that the naturalized and native American members of the German-American Bund were instructed by Kunze to join the America First Committee. (61-7474-49; G-2, 2nd Corps Area; 66-8603-1-34-53; Weekly Natl. Defense Confer.

A confidential informant submitted unverified information to the effect that one of the outstanding writers on the staff of the America First Committee, [redacted] was said to be an "out and out Nazi." (100-4712-28; [redacted])

### Communist

At the time of the Committee's founding, there was no indication of any Communist influence. Soon after the America First Committee was organized, members William J. Grace, Avery Brundage, and W. H. Ragnery, severed their relations with the America First Committee allegedly because they disapproved of any connection whatsoever with any members of the Committee who might be designated as "pink" in their belief. John Spivak

(100-4712-10, p.2)

**SECRET**

alleged that Brandage and Hagerty left because their well-known anti-Semitism would reflect unfavorably upon the Committee. It is to be noted that shortly thereafter, [redacted] left the America First Committee, publicly stating that he did so because he disagreed with the Committee's approval of the administration's rearmament program. Another well-known liberal and member of the Civil Liberties Union, [redacted] was a member of the America First Committee. (New Masses 9/20/41, 100-4712-10, p.4, b7C)

[redacted]

Information was received from an unknown source in May, 1941, which alleged that John Wheeler, Chairman of the Los Angeles Chapter, supported [redacted] faction in the 1940 California primaries. [redacted] is said to be notorious for his cooperation with the Communist Party members on the West Coast. (100-4712-17X, unknown source, b7C)

It is to be noted that in May, 1941, a confidential source advised that the Communists were said to consider the America First Committee a dangerous movement launched by "big-open-shop industrialists", and the Political Bureau of the Communist Party was said to have expressed the belief that should the United States enter the War, the Committee will definitely come out in support of it. (S-1)(C) (61-7559-11457, C-2)

[redacted]

(100-18264-54; [redacted]) (C)

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130032

Page 2

The Communist present position with regard to the America First Committee is reflected by the "New Masses" recent expose of the Committee and the fact that a derogatory report has recently been circulated by the Communist Party. This latter report which was said to have been prepared by a district secretary of the Communist Party has come from sources in various sections of the country. It contains inconsistent information and appears to be unreliable.

(100-472-137)

Further

In addition to the American Fascistic organizations previously referred to in this memorandum, there has been some indication that foreign fascist influence has been exerted on the America First Committee.

[REDACTED]

(100-472-72)

anonymous communication recd at Washington Field Office. It is reported that in the city of San Francisco, California, there are two separate chapters of the America First Committee which have been established in the Italian sections. This source failed to connect the Italian Consul in any way with these chapters, however.

Reference is also made to the (100-26755-2) "The America First Committee - A Nazi Transmission Belt" which quoted from the Chicago Daily News' Rome correspondent who indicated that the Italian Propaganda Ministry, through the Fascist spokesman, [REDACTED] has referred favorably to the America First Committee in the Italian Press.

(62-53618-16)

b7c

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CONFIDENTIAL

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February 23, 1942

100-4712-284

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Re: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

Classified: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-46,90

Declassify on: OADR

I have recently received confidential information indicating that members of the America First Committee entertain the hope that the Committee may again become a political force; that they are biding their time in contemplation of this eventuality, despite the fact that the organization ostensibly concluded its activities following the entrance of the United States into the war. [It has been reported that the Committee has gone underground under the leadership of Charles A. Lindbergh.] (100-4712-270, G-2; [redacted])

With regard to Lindbergh it is known at this time that on December 17, 1941, he addressed a dinner meeting of individuals, who had been associated with the America First Committee, assembled at the home of Edwin S. Webster, Jr., 35 Beekman Street, New York City. Webster was New York Secretary of the America First Committee.

On this occasion Lindbergh is reported to have stated that for years America has been speaking of the "Yellow Peril," yet we are now fighting on the side of the Russians and Chinese. He is stated to have appeared discouraged with the United States Government on account of the fact that, in his opinion, it has no plan nor does it know for what it is fighting. (100-50729-19, technical surveillance)

With further regard to the remarks made by Lindbergh on December 17, 1941, information has been confidentially received that he stated there is only one danger in the world, namely, the yellow danger; that China and Japan in reality are allied against the white race; and that Germany itself could have been used as a weapon against this alliance. He is reported to have said that the [redacted] program would have included Germany's taking over Russia and Poland in collaboration with the British, as a bloc against the yellow race and Bolshevism but that "the British and the fools in Washington had to interfere." Further, he is stated to have said that the British

Deleted Copy Sent  
by Letter 3-17-76  
Per FOIA Request

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Holloman
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

SENT FROM D. C.  
TIME 13:50  
DATE 2/17/42  
100-4712-284

CONFIDENTIAL

~~SECRET~~

20 1942



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum for the Attorney General

Page 2

envied the Germans and wanted to rule the world; that Britain is the real cause of all the trouble in the world today. (S) (C)

Edinburgh is reported to have pointed out that the America First Committee cannot, of course, be active now but that it should be on the alert for the time when the American people, by reason of the lists of the missing and statements of war losses, realize that they have been betrayed by the British and the Administration. He is indicated to have stated that when the America First Committee can again become a political force; that it must remain quiet for a while and wait the time for active functioning; and finally, that there may be a time soon when the Committee can advocate a negotiated peace. (S) (C)

(100-4712-270, G-2)

Further information has been received to the effect that a series of house parties is to keep alive contacts of the America First Committee. It is also reported that the backbone of the America First Committee, particularly in the East under the leadership of the followers of Reverend Charles Coughlin, is soon to come out with a new organization. b7D

In view of the foregoing information there is being attached hereto a memorandum setting forth the structure, activities and connections of the America First Committee as it was organized prior to its allegedly going out of existence following our entry into the war, in order that you may have the benefit of a composite picture of the organization. It is to be noted, however, as suggested in the memorandum itself, that the information in the possession of this Bureau concerning the Committee has not been the result of investigation initiated by the Bureau but has been either voluntarily submitted incident to other investigations or obtained from articles which have appeared in the press.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum for the Attorney General

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Page 1

Inasmuch as recent reports indicate that the American First Committee is being revived and may be contemplating activities detrimental to the war effort of the United States, an investigation will be conducted into the various ramifications and connections of the organization unless in your opinion reason obtains for not conducting such investigation.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

984

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

**February 14, 1942**

**Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.**

**Re: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE;  
INTERNAL SECURITY.**

**Dear Sir:**

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED**

**HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

**DATE 5/12/86 BY SP6 BTJ/RCB**

Enclosed herewith is a communication  
dated February 9, 1942, from [redacted] Baltimore, Mary-  
land. **SP8 BTJ/RCB**

There is no doubt that the Bureau has re-  
ceived this information from the Army, but in order  
to make certain that the Bureau is in possession of  
this information, a copy of the above-referred-to  
letter is enclosed herewith.

**Very truly yours,**

**J. F. SEARS  
Special Agent in Charge**

**1 ENCL. 18**

**100-72  
Enclosure**

**2 FEB 21 1942**

**COPY IN FILE**

**100-4712-285**  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FEB 16 1942  
[redacted]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CORPS AREA  
UNITED STATES ARMY

12 (I)  
2/6/42

Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff G-2  
Military Intelligence-Public Relations  
Seventh Floor Standard Oil Building  
Baltimore Maryland

RSU/AS

February 9, 1942

In reply refer to  
File: III-1430

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Subject: America First, Incorporated

Summary of Information:

The following unsolicited report from a usually reliable source has been received in this office and is forwarded for the information of your office:

"1. An America First underground organization under the leadership of Charles A. Lindbergh is being formed. The first evidence of this is two secret meetings which were held at the homes of persons high in the America First organization. On December 17, 1941, more than fifty people were present at 10 Beekman Place, New York, home of an America First leader, reportedly that of Edwin S. Webster, Jr., former New York secretary of America First and a Wall Street banker of Kidder, Peabody and Company, to hear Charles A. Lindbergh counsel the continuation of an America First type of organization. The second meeting, held a few days before in an apartment on lower Park Avenue, was sponsored by a woman who was one of the New York heads of Women United, America First auxiliary. It is understood that these are the first of a series of house parties which will keep alive America First contacts.

"2. The meeting at the Beekman Place address was a dinner given for the members of the speakers' Bureau of America First. Those present were the minor sub-leaders of the America First group, borough heads, district heads and leading speakers. Lindbergh was an 'unexpected treat' for the assemblage. Although he had not come prepared to speak, according to the host, Lindbergh, who now has applied for readmittance to the United States air force, stood up and spoke for an hour. It is reported the flyer made it clear that events in the Pacific had no

DISTRIBUTION:

F, I, J

D.I.O.'s, 3CA

of source

X

Evaluation

Credible

Investigation  
of information

X

FEB 12 1942

PHILADELPHIA OFFICE  
ROUTED TO

Declassified per State Army  
letter dtd 5/29/91  
8/23 mch/ky 8/12/91

Subject: America First, Incorporated

effect on his previous charge, that the Administration's policies had involved this country in a war. As far as the Pacific was concerned, Lindbergh said that Britain was responsible and that she should have joined with Germany in destroying the yellow danger and Bolshevism. If such a move had been made, it would have put America and Britain in a better position to fight Japan.

"3. Bryce Oliver, radio commentator for the Friends of Democracy, headed by Dr. L. M. Birkhead, speaking over the radio during the second week of January, without mentioning Lindbergh's name or the home in which the meeting took place, charged that a 'famous leader, who now seeks a place within the United States Army, had said: "America First should be on the alert to take advantage of the reactions which will come when the lists of missing and the dead and the wounded begin to appear, for it is then that the American people" -- of course, he meant the American people who can be swayed by the Fascist flag appeal -- "will be made to understand how they have been betrayed by the British and the Administration."

"4. The second meeting, held at the lower Park Avenue address, discussed the formation of a new organization with a more open anti-Semitic program than the America First Committee utilized. Present at the meeting were the persons active in Women United, an America First auxiliary, and an editor of a small financial magazine who has spread the forged Protocols of Zion.

"5. The propaganda tactics of the former appeasement group is made clear by Father Coughlin and by Mervin K. Hart, in whose offices have been hatched many pro-Fascist groups. In a letter to the New York Times of January 6, 1942, Hart violently attacked the proposal of any union with the other democracies. This is in line with Coughlin's incitements against Britain and the statement that 'we must think first of our defense only.' The Coordinating Committee for Democratic Action was spurred after the fall of France by a group which met shortly after that date in the office of Hart. Present at the meeting were William R. Castle, Hoover's under-secretary of state, former Senator Rush Holt, Father Talbot, editor of America, and Charles Lindbergh."

PHILIP L. THURBER  
Colonel, G. S. C.  
A. C. of S. G-2

100-0

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, New York**

*l  
Eun*

100-0

February 17, 1942

DEC 10-16-90 SP8 BTJ/col

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

*5/12/86*  
Classified by *SP6 JAT/ey*  
Declassify on: OADR

RE: COMMUNICATION FROM G-2 CONCERNING  
AMERICA FIRST, Incorporated. *(S)(C)U*  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is being forwarded herewith for the information  
of the Bureau one mimeographed copy of a communication re-  
ceived from *[redacted]* G. S. C., Assistant  
Chief of Staff, G-2, Baltimore Maryland, concerning America  
First, Incorporated. *(S)(C)U*

*b7c*

Very truly yours,

*P. E. Foxworth*  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enclosure

FOI/PA #	242359
APPROVAL #	
CIVILIAN	
E.O. #	12836
DATE	3/14/86
INITIALS	<i>fy</i>

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4/20/91

*8 30 AM '42*  
*APR 11 1942*

RECORDED 100-4712-286

FEB 19 1942

**COPY IN FILE**  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

*b7c*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

1 Enclosures for Bureau

Re: New York File No. 100-0

10-16-90 SP8GTS/col

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/16/90 BY SP8GTS/col

100-14712-288

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☐ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☐ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☐ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

2 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): Enclosure is duplicate of enclosure to 100-4712-285

- ☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100-4712-286 enclosure

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

January 29, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE, REPORTED  
SPEECH OF CHARLES A. LINDBERGH.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

Reference is made to your notations concerning available information in the Bureau files relative to an article appearing in the Washington Merry-Go-Round and published January 28, 1942, in the New York Daily Mirror. It is recalled that this article relates of attendance by Charles A. Lindbergh at a meeting of one-time employees of America First held at a place formerly known as the German-American Rathskeller in New York. The article indicates that Lindbergh addressed this meeting on December 19 (1941), at which time he reiterated his charge that Britain was responsible for the war and counselled listeners to bide their time for future action. It is noted that an item also appearing in the column relates that intelligence officials have records of other secret America First gatherings in Chicago, St. Louis, and Los Angeles, at which plans were discussed for distributing "literature" to men in nearby military camps and for action in the coming Congressional elections.

The Bureau files appear to reflect no definite information at this time concerning a meeting of the America First Committee addressed by Lindbergh on December 19, 1941. It is known, however, that Charles A. Lindbergh was in New York City on December 17, 1941, at which time he addressed a dinner meeting of America Firsters assembled at the home of Edwin S. Webster, Jr., 35 Beekman Street, New York City. Webster was Secretary of the America First Committee, 515 Madison Avenue, New York City.

It was developed through technical surveillance, in the course of investigating [redacted] and her family, that on the occasion of his remarks on December 17, 1941, Lindbergh spoke at length during the evening and suggested that members of the America First Committee get behind the war. He added, however, that for years America has been speaking of the "Yellow Peril" yet we are now fighting on the side of the Russians and Chinese. It was reported that Lindbergh appeared discouraged with the U.S. Government on account of the fact that in his opinion it has no plan nor does it know for what it is fighting. In the course of his remarks, Lindbergh stated further to have urged the boxing up of the America First Committee. Although reported to be one of those who voted for the continuance of the Committee at its meeting in Chicago, he nevertheless urged that the Committee

10 FEB 26 1942

Declassify on: OADR

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10-16-90

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pgs. 2 & 3 paragraphs 1-5  
pg. 3 paragraph 1-4 declassified  
per Army letter dtd 5/29/91-  
8123 wch/tcy 8-14-91

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Memorandum for the Director

- 2 -

disband because of the dissimilarity within its ranks. It is noted in this connection that at the America First Committee meeting held at Chicago, Illinois, 77 voted for the continuance of the Committee and 44 for its abandonment. It was finally determined that the organization should disband because of so much dissimilarity.

[REDACTED]

A communication has been received from G-2 with regard to this meeting on December 17, 1941, at the home of Edwin S. Webster. This communication sets forth the gist of Lindbergh's remarks, according to reports of two persons who were present, as follows: (S-1)(C)

"There is only one danger in the world - that is the yellow danger. China and Japan are really bound together against the white race. There could only have been one efficient weapon against this alliance, underneath the surface, Germany itself could have been this weapon. The ideal set-up would have been to have had Germany take over Poland and Russia, in collaboration with the British, as bloc against the yellow people and bolshevism. But instead, the British and the fools in Washington had to interfere. The British envied the Germans and wanted to rule the world forever. Britain is the real cause of all the trouble in the world today. (S-1)(C)

"Of course, America First cannot be active right now. But it should keep on the alert and when the large missing lists and losses are published the American people will realize how much they have been betrayed by the British and the Administration. Then America First can be a political force again. We must be quiet a while and await the time for active functioning. There may be a time soon when we can advocate a negotiated peace." (S-1)(C)

The information received from G-2 also includes a clipping from an unidentified newspaper setting forth remarks made by one Oliver who spoke over Station WJVD for Friends of Democracy. In the course of his remarks, Oliver is reported to have related that a "famous leader who now seeks a place within the Army of the United States" addressed a secret Fascist (S-1)(C)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum for the Director

**CONFIDENTIAL**

- 3 -

meeting in a Beekman Place apartment on December 19, (1941). It is noted, however that this unidentified newspaper article has this comment under Oliver's remarks: "Pearson and Allen gave the date of the meeting as December 17, but Oliver gave it as December 19". This latter statement is, of course, contrary to the article in question appearing in the New York Daily Mirror, relating that the meeting, according to Pearson and Allen, occurred on December 19 (S-1)(C)

It would appear that the Pearson and Allen column in the New York Daily Mirror relative to Lindbergh's remarks on December 19 is probably in error and that it in fact relates to the meeting addressed by Lindbergh on December 17 at the home of Edwin S. Webster, particularly in view of the fact that Lindbergh's remarks as set forth in the column closely parallel those reported by G-2 to have been made by him on December 17. It is to be noted further in this connection that Mrs. Catherine Larkin in attendance at the meeting, as indicated by the Pearson and Allen column, is stated to have been in attendance at the meeting addressed by Lindbergh on December 17, according to the G-2 report. (S-1)(C)

The Bureau files do not appear to contain any information identifying the [redacted] and [redacted] reported to have attended the meeting addressed by Lindbergh. b7c

The New York Office was contacted relative to the item appearing in the Washington Merry-Go-Round and instructed immediately to make available any information which it might have concerning the reported remarks made by Lindbergh on December 19, 1941, in addressing ex-employees of the America First Committee at a German Rathskeller in New York City. Subsequently, [redacted] of the New York Office advised that they had received no information whatever indicating that Lindbergh had addressed such a group on December 19th. b7c

The files of the Bureau do not appear to reflect any information concerning secret gatherings of the America First Committee to discuss the distribution of literature to men in the armed forces. The files do, however, reflect a report dated November 25, 1941, from G-2 informing that it was reliably reported to the Commanding Officer at Lowry Field, Denver, Colorado, that the America First Committee was distributing literature and buttons to soldiers of that command. (S-1)(C)

Respectfully,

*[Signature]*  
D. M. Ladd

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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DATE 5/12/86 BY SP8 BTJ/ky  
10-16-90 SP8 BTJ/ky

100 - 4712 - 288 APR 13 1942

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100 - 92702 - 1

4 APR 15 1942

Papers received + changed  
Please file

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

**Federal Bureau of Investigation.**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
**Washington, D. C.**  
**February 10, 1942**

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR**

**RE: MEMORANDUM RECEIVED FROM MR.**  
**MARVIN H. MCINTYRE, January**  
**31, 1942.**

*replied*  
Reference is made to the attached memorandum dated January 31, 1942, addressed to you by Mr. Marvin H. McIntyre with the attachments, two newspaper clippings. ~~Also attached hereto is a letter of acknowledgment to Mr. McIntyre.~~

You will recall my memorandum to you of January 29, 1942, concerning the information which appears in the newspaper clipping captioned "America First." In my memorandum I advised you that the Bureau files appeared to reflect no definite information concerning a meeting of the America First Committee addressed by Lindbergh on December 19, 1941. It is known that Lindbergh had addressed a dinner meeting on December 17, 1941, of America Firsters at the home of Edwin S. Webster, Jr., 36 Beekman Street, New York City. I also advised that the Bureau files did not contain any information identifying the ~~██████████~~ and ~~██████████~~ who reportedly attended the meeting addressed by Lindbergh.

Respectfully,

*D. M. Ladd*  
D. M. Ladd

Attachment ①

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DATE 2/12/86 BY SP8BJS/co

10-16-90

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4 FEB 24 1942

100-4712-28  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
14 FEB 20 1942  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 31, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR: HONORABLE J. EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Just as it arrived in my office.

*MHM*

M. H. McINTYRE  
Secretary to the President

Attachments

ENCLO. 14

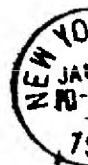
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100-4712-289  
FEB 20 1942  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



Martin H. MacIntyre Esq  
The White House

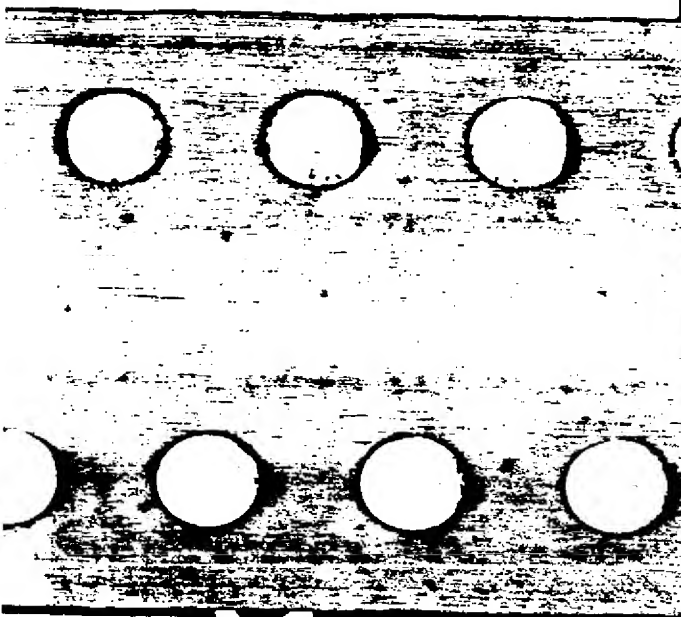
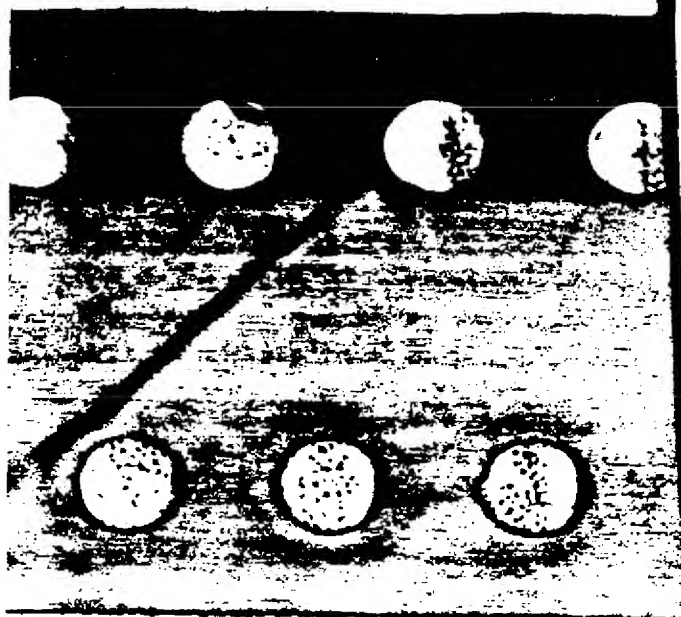


Washington  
DC

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DATE 3/27/16 BY SP6 bja/hey





ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-16-90 BY SP8 BTJ/ty

100-4712-281  
10-16-90  
SP8 BTJ/ty

## Wheeler Plays Golf With Knox And Feud Ends

### 'Error' in Matching Pains Political Foe, and They End Day on Cordial Terms

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31 (UP).—The battle of Burning Tree—in which a stout isolationist and a stout interventionist played eighteen holes of golf together—testified today to the changed atmosphere of the capital.

A non-politically minded golf steward was primarily responsible for what came close to being the greatest social error in capital history. He matched Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox and Senator Burton K. Wheeler, Democrat, of Montana, for eighteen holes at the Burning Tree course on Sunday.

Senator Wheeler, who led the isolationist battle against Knox confirmation to the Cabinet post, told the United Press he was "more surprised than I thought I could be" when he walked out to the first tee to greet his partners. He explained he had taken advantage of a system at the course whereby on Sunday golfers enter a tournament for a prize and are not given the names of their fellow players in advance.

"I walked out to the tee to join what was my foursome when somebody called my name," he said. The name caller, he explained, was Senator Millard E. Tydings, Democrat, of Maryland, who supported the Administration on most of its foreign policy issues but who voted against repeal of the neutrality act.

"Come here and meet your partners, Burton," Senator Tydings said. "You're playing with us today."

Senator Wheeler turned around to shake hands with Secretary Knox and Assistant Secretary of the Treasury John L. Sullivan.

Witnesses described the scene as "distinctly cool" and said they had trembled in anticipation of the consequences. Only five months ago, Senator Wheeler toured the country

who made the arrangements for the pow-wow. Another was Mrs. Catherine Larkin, militant flyer, who was at the meeting of leaders addressed by Charles Lindbergh Dec. 19, long after Pearl Harbor and shortly before he offered his services to the Army.

At that session, Lindbergh reiterated his charge that Britain was responsible for the war and counselled listeners to bide their time for future action. Another present at last week's meeting was Mary Norton, active in an "impeach Roosevelt" movement last year.

NOTE: Intelligence officials have records of other secret America First gatherings in Chicago, St. Louis and Los Angeles. At these, plans were discussed for distributing "literature" to men in nearby military camps and for action in the coming Congressional elections.

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XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☐ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☐ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☐ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

21 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): Duplicate copy of  
document located 100-4712-284

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100-4712-290

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

b7c

RECORDED

February 25, 1942

IN SPECIAL DELIVERY

Major General Edwin M. Watson  
Secretary to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

I have been confidentially advised that members of the America First Committee entertain the hope that the Committee may again become a political force; that they are biding their time in contemplation of this eventuality. While the organization ostensibly went out of existence following the entrance of the United States into the present war, I am informed that the Committee has in reality gone underground, under the leadership of Charles A. Lindbergh.

With regard to Lindbergh, it is confidentially reported that on December 17, 1941, he addressed a meeting of some fifty individuals who had been associated with the America First Committee, assembled at the home of Edwin S. Webster, Jr., 35 Beckman Place, New York City. Webster was New York Secretary of the Committee. On this occasion Lindbergh is reported to have said that for years America has been speaking of the "Yellow Peril," yet we are now fighting on the side of the Russians and Chinese. He is stated to have appeared discouraged with the United States Government because, in his opinion, it has no plan nor does it know for what it is fighting.

With further regard to his remarks of December 17, 1941, Lindbergh is reported to have stated that there is only one danger in the world, namely, the yellow danger; that China and Japan in reality are allied together against the white race;

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 1  
★ FEB 18 1942 ★  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

44873

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Holloman
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

Deleted Copy Sent  
by Letter 5-8-76  
Per FOIA Request

6 MAR 20 1942

b7c

and that Germany could have been used as a weapon against this alliance. Continuing, Lindbergh is reported as saying that the ideal program would have included Germany's taking over Russia and Poland in collaboration with the British as a bloc against the yellow race and Bolshevism; but that, as he stated, "the British and the Socials in Washington had to interfere." He is stated to have said that Britain carried the Germans and wanted to rule the world; that Britain is the real cause of all the trouble in the world today.

Pointing out that the America First Committee cannot of course be active at this time, Lindbergh is reported to have said that it should be on the alert for the time when the American people, by reason of the lists of the winning and statements of war losses, realize they have been betrayed by the British and the Administration. Further, he is indicated to have stated that then the America First Committee can again be a political force; that there may be a time soon when the Committee can advocate a negotiated peace.

In view of the foregoing information, I felt that the President and you would be interested in more detailed information concerning the America First Committee and am accordingly transmitting herewith a memorandum relating to the structure, activities, and connections of the America First Committee as it was organized prior to its allegedly going out of existence following our entry into the war.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

290

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

**PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA**

**February 20, 1942**

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

10-16-90  
SP8 BT5/CL  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5/12/86 BY SP6 bja/Hay

Dear Sir:

Contained in the files of the Philadelphia  
Office is considerable information concerning the activities  
of the America First Committee in this district.

In view of the fact that since the United States  
has become involved in war, the America First Committee has  
publicly announced that their organization has been dissolved,  
this office is desirous to know whether or not the Bureau  
wishes the report submitted covering the information collected  
concerning this organization.

Until such time as this office is further advised  
by the Bureau, no further investigative action is being taken,  
and a report is not being submitted.

Very truly yours,

J. F. SEARS  
Special Agent in Charge

COPIES DESTROYED  
3/34/58 8-46

100-2651

RECORDED

100-4712-291

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

2 FEB 21 1942

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

**COPY IN FILE**

7 MAR 7 1942

b7c

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
601 Richmond Trust Building  
Richmond, Virginia

February 20, 1942

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Re: AMERICAN FIRST, INCORPORATED,  
Internal Security

Dear Sir:

There is being enclosed herewith for the information  
of the Bureau, copy of a memorandum dated February 9, 1942, re-  
ceived by this office from G-2, Baltimore, Maryland.

Very truly yours,

*H. I. Bobbitt*  
H. I. BOBBITT,  
Special Agent in Charge.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/7/87 BY SP8 BTJ/CL

COPIES DESTROYED  
3/26/58

100-2827  
Enclosure

*Primarily  
for [redacted]*

1 ENCL. 2

100-4712-292  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
2 155 5 1942  
[redacted]

MAR 7 1942 FILE

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☐ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☐ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☐ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

2 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): Enclosure is duplicate of enclosure to 100-4712-285

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100-4712-292 enclosure

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X FOR THIS PAGE X  
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**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
4058 United States Court House  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

February 23, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: <sup>0</sup> AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE  
Internal Security

10-16-90  
S183TS/CCL  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED -  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/12/86 BY [signature]

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Philadelphia Field Division letter of February 20, 1942.

I wish to advise that a report will be submitted in instant case setting forth the investigation conducted to date, but no further investigation will be instituted unless specifically advised by the Bureau because of the apparent disbandment of this organization.

Very truly yours,

*J. F. Sears*  
J. F. SEARS  
Special Agent in Charge

100-2651

COPIES DESTROYED  
8/26/54

RECORDED

100-4712-293  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
10 FEB 24/1942  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

COPY IN FILE

7 MAR 7 1942

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**

**United States Department of Justice  
San Antonio, Texas**

**February 19, 1942**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE 378,519

FOI/PA # 10767359  
APPEAL #  
CIVIL ACT. #  
E.O. # 123586  
DATE 5/12/86 INITIALS FCH

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

#249,962,624/15  
10-16-90 SP8BTJ/IRB

Dear Sir:

Classified by SP8BTJ/IRB  
Declassify on: OADR

For the information of the Bureau and the New York  
Office, the following data, which were received in the San An-  
tonio Field Division from Colonel A. W. ROFFE, A. C. of S. G-2,  
Fort Sam Houston, Texas, are being forwarded.

The information was forwarded by Colonel ROFFE in a  
summary of information dated at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, February  
16, 1942, their file # (G-2) 080 (America First) and is as follows: (S-1) (C)

"1. An America First underground organization under the  
leadership of CHARLES A. LINDBERGH is being formed. The  
first evidence of this is two secret meetings which were  
held at the homes of persons high in the America First or-  
ganization. On December 17, 1941, more than fifty people  
were present at 10 Beekman Place, New York, home of an  
America First leader, reportedly that of EDWIN S. WEBSTER,  
Jr., former New York secretary of America First and a Wall  
Street banker of Kidder, Peabody and Company, to hear CHARLES  
A. LINDBERGH counsel the continuation of an America First  
type of organization. The second meeting, held a few days  
before in an apartment on lower Park Avenue, was sponsored  
by a woman who was one of the New York heads of Women United,  
America First auxiliary. It is understood that these are  
the first of a series of house parties which will keep alive  
America First contacts.

"2. The meeting at the Beekman Place address was a dis-  
ner given for the members of the speakers Bureau of America  
First. Those present were the minor sub-leaders of the Amer-  
ica First group, borough heads, district heads and leading  
speakers. LINDBERGH was an 'unexpected treat' for the assem-  
blage. Although he had not come prepared to speak, according  
to the host, LINDBERGH, who now has applied for readmittance  
to the United States air force, stood up and spoke for an hour.

DECLASSIFIED BY 8123 mch/ky  
ON 8/14/91

**CONFIDENTIAL**

pg. 1 Paragraphs 2-4 cont pg. 2  
pg. 2 Paragraphs 1-3 declassified  
per Army letter dated 3/29/91  
8123 mch/ky 8/14/91 1942

February 19, 1942

**CONFIDENTIAL**

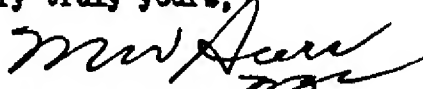
"It is reported the flyer made it clear that events in the Pacific had no effect on his previous charge that the Administration's policies had involved this country in war. As far as the Pacific was concerned, LINDBERGH said that Britain was responsible and that she should have joined with Germany in destroying the yellow danger and Bolshevism. If such a move had been made, it would have put America and Britain in a better position to fight Japan (S-1) (C)

"3. ~~BRYCE OLIVER~~, radio commentator for the ~~Friends of Democracy~~, headed by Dr. L. M. ~~BIKHEAD~~, speaking over the radio during the second week of January, without mentioning LINDBERGH's name or the home in which the meeting took place, charged that a 'famous leader, who now seeks a place 'within the United States Army, had said: "America First should be on the alert to take advantage of the reactions which will come when the lists of missing and the dead and the wounded begin to appear, for it is then that the American people" -- of course, he meant the American people who can be swayed by the Fascist flag appeal -- "will be made to understand how they have been betrayed by the British and the Administration." (S-1) (C)

"4. The second meeting, held at the lower Park Avenue address, discussed the formation of a new organization with a more open anti-Semitic program than the America First Committee utilized. Present at the meeting were the persons active in Women United, an America First auxiliary, and an editor of a small financial magazine who has spread the forged protocols of Zion. (S-1) (C)

"5. The propaganda tactics of the former appeasement group is made clear by ~~FATHER COUGHLIN~~ and by ~~MERTIN K. HART~~, in whose offices have been hatched many pro-Fascist groups. In a letter to the New York Times of January 6, 1942, HART violently attacked the proposal of any union with the other democracies. This is in line with COUGHLIN's incitements against Britain and the statement that 'we must think first of our defense only.' The Coordinating Committee for Democratic Action was spurred after the fall of France by a group which met shortly after that date in the office of HART. Present at the meeting were WILLIAM R. CASTLE, HOOVER's under-secretary of state, former Senator RUSSELL HOLT, ~~FATHER TALBOT~~, editor of ~~America~~, and CHARLES LINDBERGH." (S-1) (C)

Very truly yours,



M. W. ACERS

Special Agent in Charge

MWA:CL  
cc: New York Office

**CONFIDENTIAL**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/12/86 BY SP8 BTJ/CL

10-16-90 SP8 BTJ/CL

100-4712-295  
NOT USED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DEPARTMENT  
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, G-2  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

File 221

Subject: Letter of transmittal.  
To: Lt. Col. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

The attached communications are forwarded for  
your information and such action as you consider advisable.

*Raymond E. Lee*  
RAYMOND E. LEE, TFC  
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,  
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

1 Enclosure:

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

100-4712-296  
JUL 25 1942  
JUL 25 1942

Declassified per Army  
letter dtd 5/29/91  
8123 mch/tcy 8/12/91

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR DEPARTMENT

M. I. D.

January 17, 1942

(Date)

Subject: 0 America First, Incorporated

Summary of Information:

1. This organization is going to be kept intact and it is believed that the Ford interests in Detroit, Michigan, are going to finance it in a careful manner. The organization is not going to mix into the war very much but it will be kept intact for the purpose of carrying on the hate campaign against President Roosevelt.

2. It is reported that one of the officials high in the State Police circles of Michigan is working very closely with Gerald I. Smith, the rabble-rouser, anti-semitic and anti-war patriot. Smith has secretly been on the Ford payroll for at least three years. The Central Control Commission of the Communist Party believes that Gerald Smith has the complete mailing list of the America First Group.

3. It is known that Smith has been working very closely with Harry Jung, alias Harry Young, alias A. G. Knowles, alias Martin Brown who has offices at 2212 Tribune Tower, Chicago, Jung, who acted as liaison man between the Chicago Tribune and other groups in connection with the America First outfit, is in constant touch with Smith and with this captain of the State Troopers of Michigan. This works so that the Ford Company receives every bit of information and in turn finances groups that are part of the set-up of the campaign being carried on against President Roosevelt.

4. Clarence Bodington Kelland, who was formerly publicity director for the America First Committee, is a member of the Republican National Committee from Arizona and now he has been made publicity director of the Republican National Committee and is supposed to give his services free of charge. Kelland is a writer but he has been one of the most bitter attackers against President Roosevelt in this country. It is understood that he has a rather close acquaintance with Gerald Smith and it is known that he has a rather close connection in Chicago with the Tribune outfit.

Distribution:

100-4770-294

Evaluation

-of source -of information

Reliable	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Questionable	
Undetermined	

War Department  
8th Corps Area  
8th Corps Area

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Declassified per  
Army letter dtd  
5/29/91  
8/23 mch/ty  
8/13/91

Encl 1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Subject: America First, Incorporated

1/17/42

5. It is believed that secretly the American First set-up is now located in some second-rate hotel in Detroit, Michigan.

6. The America First mailing list is supposed to contain 10,160,000 names. In the past few weeks other groups have apparently been using parts of the mailing list in sending out material that can be questioned, especially in war times.

296



b7c

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

RE: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

For your assistance in making the investigation requested in Bureau letter to all Special Agents in Charge, dated March 16, 1942, there are attached hereto copies of the following communications received from the Military Intelligence Division, Washington, D. C.:

Report dated January 3, 1942, captioned  
CHARLES LINDBERGH - AMERICA FIRST, and signed  
[redacted] and enclosures;

b7c

Report dated January 17, 1942, regarding  
America First, Incorporated;

Report dated January 31, 1942, regarding  
America First Committee Meeting.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

10-16.90 SP8BTJ/C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5/13/86 BY SP8BTJ/C

Enclosure

CC

Detroit  
Chicago

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
★ MAR 20 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

15 MAR 25 1942

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

b7c

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.**

December 15, 1941

DML:PC

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

Received: 12:25 PM  
Transcribed: 2:20 PM

Mr. Maloney in the Department of Justice called with reference to a memorandum he sent to the Bureau concerning one [redacted] (phonetic) in New York and a man by the name of [redacted] (phonetic) who was employed in an aircraft factory at [redacted] and who used to contribute money to the America First Committee [redacted]. Mr. Maloney inquired as to whether the Bureau had picked up [redacted] or if anything at all has been done about him by the Bureau.

I told Maloney that I would have a check made on this and he would be advised.

Respectfully,

*DML*  
D. M. Ladd

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5/12/86 BY [redacted]  
10-16-90 SP8BJS/CL

RECORDED

INDEXED

10 MAR 7 1942

COPIES IN FILE

100-4712-24
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
11 FEB 23 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*to  
America First Committee*

*Have advised by  
memo 12/14/41 that in  
action to be taken  
until J. E. U. and  
law got together  
COJ/*

*b7c*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Post Office Box #2344  
Boston, Massachusetts

February 25, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RECEIVED SP8B DIAL  
ON 10-16-90

Re: Gifts for our own Boys; GOB,  
America First Committee Group,  
Plaza Hotel, New York, N.Y.  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Incorporated below is a report this office received from  
G-2, Boston, Massachusetts: ~~(S)~~ (C) U

"From a reliable and confidential source, it has been reported that literature and request for contributions are being distributed under the title of 'GOB'. The letterhead lists the office as being at 150 Broadway, New York City. The Gifts Headquarters is Room 11-M, Plaza Hotel, New York City. Literature states that if we must have a war, we must win the war, and claims that the intent and purpose of the group is to boost the morale of our men. It is suggested that these gifts be not less than the amount of \$500.00. ~~(S)~~ (C) U

"Active are MRS. IDA MAE COOPER, MR. & MRS. HOLMS, JOHN BURKE, THELMA HERRICK, MRS. DeLUCCA, MR. & MRS. AMOS PINCHOT, MR. & MRS. NEDDORF, ANDREW SMITH, who is the Bronx Chairman of the America First Committee, and Mrs. Bennett of the No Foreign War Committee. These names will be recognized as active America Firsters, which proves that this organization is not disbanded, but intends to operate in an underground fashion." ~~(S)~~ (C) U

5/12/84  
Classified by SP-6 by [signature]  
Declassify on: OADR

Very truly yours,  
V. W. Peterson  
V. W. PETERSON  
Special Agent in Charge

FOIPA #	262359
APPROVED	
CIVILIAN	
E.O. #	2359
DATE	5/12/86
INITIALS	[signature]

VWP:MP

cc-NEW YORK CITY

pg 1 paragraph 1-3 declassified  
Per Army letter dated 5/29/91  
8/23 [unclear] 8/14/91  
2 MAR 12 1942

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

100-4712-298
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 3 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

# Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON and ROBERT E. ALLEN

(The authors of the columns in this space below are given the widest latitude. Their viewpoints do not necessarily always reflect those of The Daily Mirror.)

**WASHINGTON.** Mrs. Roosevelt's days as Assistant Civil Defense Director are numbered. She doesn't want to get out, believes she is making an important contribution to this vital war work. But others, some her best friends, don't, so plans are quietly on for her to depart.

Observers have felt that her presence at CD was not helping it or her. She works earnestly, and before the war, when CD was chiefly promotional, did real service.

But now CD is functional, and the public demands this crucial war work be directed by experts. Members of Congress have numerous letters complaining about Mrs. Roosevelt's continuance, urging she and other "amateurs" be replaced.

NOTE:—Since the first of the year, Mrs. Roosevelt has doubled her substantial contribution to the Red Cross.

## Royal Neighbor

**H**ANDSOME, young Archduke Otto of Austria created a flurry (especially among the ladies) in the House restaurant recently. He shook hands with Congressmen, among them John Sparkman of Alabama.

"I know about you, Congressman," said the refugee would-be ruler, "I noticed one neighbor in my apartment building had Congressional auto tags, and found it was you."

"Yes," said Sparkman, "we live on the same floor."

"I would feel honored if you would drop in some evening," said the Archduke.

"A pleasure," responded

Sparkman. "In fact, we may be seeing a lot of each other. I'm an air raid warden in the building."

## America First

**T**HE governing board of the America First Committee officially disbanded soon after Pearl Harbor, but that doesn't keep some New Yorkers of the organization from continuing operations.

Authorities have a report on a meeting last week in a place formerly known as the German-American Rathskeller; 66 attended among them a number of on-time employees of America First.

One was Marjorie Kennedy,

the new Mrs. Catherine Larkin, militant fighter, who was at the meeting at leaders addressed by Charles Lindbergh Dec. 19, long after Pearl Harbor and shortly before he offered his services to the Army.

At that session, Lindbergh reiterated his charge that Britain was responsible for the war and counselled listeners to bide their time for future action. Another present at last week's meeting was Mary Norton, active in an "Impeach Roosevelt" movement last year.

NOTE: Intelligence officials have records of other secret America First gatherings in Chicago, St. Louis and Los Angeles. At these, plans were discussed for distributing "literature" to men in nearby military camps and for action in the coming Congressional elections.

## Tin Cans

**H**OUSEWIVES have deluged Washington with inquiries about saving tin cans. The answer is yes and no.

Yes, because the government expects to reclaim the tin and steel in discarded containers. No, because the government is not yet ready for it.

Coming to Washington soon will be E. Baden Powell, co-inventor with Dr. W. C. Gregory of what is said to be a practical method for reclaiming all metal in the tin can. The inventors have a system to eliminate labels, lacquers and impurities, to salvage tin and steel elements.

This is a difficult process because to get steel, more than 95 per cent of the tin must be removed; to save the tin, it has been necessary to sacrifice the steel.

Twelve strategically located recovery plants will be erected. Their location and amount of metal they will reclaim are secrets. But eventually, used tin cans will be in the war picture.

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- Mr. Hoover
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

What we hear about American Indians

10-16-90 SP8855260 L RECORDED  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/12/06 BY 60324 JAT/STP

100-4712-299  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
MAR 4 1942  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JAN 28 1942  
New York Daily Mirror

MAR 9 1942

XXXXXX  
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☒ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☒ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

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☐ For your information:

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

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CONFIDENTIAL  
WAR DEPARTMENT  
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, G-2  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
MAR 7 1942

Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

XO  
Subject:

Letter of transmittal.

To:

Lt. Col. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

The attached communications are forwarded for  
your information and such action as you consider advisable.

*Raymond E. Lee*  
RAYMOND E. LEE, Jr.  
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,  
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

1 Enclosure:

ENCLO. 11

FBI  
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CONFIDENTIAL

Declassified per Army  
letter dtd 5/29/91  
8/23 mch/Hty 8/13/91

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH CORPS AREA  
Office of the  
Assistant Chief of Staff for Military Intelligence

Please refer  
to file: (G-2) 080 (America First Committee)

ANR:smg  
Fort Sam Houston, Texas  
February 16, 1942.

CORRECTED COPY

Subject: America First Committee

Source & Information: Reliable.

Summary of Information:

Cards were mailed to <sup>LEWIS</sup>Private Darnell by Mrs. Elmer Rothgeb, 143  
Clarencedale Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio.

It will be noted that Private Darnell stated to Duncan Field authorities that the cards were sent by the "America First Committee, absolutely unsolicited". However, later Darnell stated further that Mrs. Rothgeb is a next door neighbor of his family in Youngstown, with whom he is well acquainted.

It may very well be that this was an unsolicited token of consideration for men in the service from "home-town" friends and well-wishers. It may also be that the sender was entirely innocent of any questionable motive in sending the cards to the son of a neighbor. But it is none-the-less a subtle, unsuspected, but effective means of locating and keeping track of individuals and organizations in the service for other purposes. Likewise, it could be a legitimate form of commercial racket which some ingenious concern discovered had an appeal to relatives and friends of men in the service, started before the United States got into the war, and continued thereafter for profit.

In this connection attention is invited to the attached copy of an extract recently appearing in the "Herry-Go-Round", syndicated column of Pearson and Allen.

Action:

For your information and appropriate action.

Distribution:

G-2, ( )  
G-2, 1st CA  
2nd CA  
3rd CA  
4th CA  
5th CA  
6th CA  
7th CA  
9th CA

*G-2/CS Distribution:*

*300  
629  
File*

*Source: Reliable  
Information: Reliable*

*9-5-42  
JMK:ra*

*A. W. ROSE*

Colonel, G. S. C.  
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-2.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

*Declassified per Army  
letter dtd 5/29/91  
8123 mch/7/91 8/13/91*



EXTRACT FROM "MERRY-GO-ROUND"  
By Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen  
From

San Antonio News - - - January 28, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STILL AMERICA FIRSTING

The government board of the America First Committee officially announced its disbandment several days after Pearl Harbor, but that isn't keeping certain New York warlocks of the organization from continuing their operations.

Intelligence authorities have a report on a meeting of this element last week in an establishment formerly known as the German-American Rathskeller. Sixty-six attended this affair, among them a number of one-time employees of the New York America First headquarters.

One of them was Marjorie Kennedy, who made the arrangements for the secret pot-veg in her name. Another was Mrs. Catherine ~~Marlin~~, a militant America First stumper, who also was present at the meeting of America First leaders that was addressed by Charles Lindbergh December 19, 11 days after Pearl Harbor and shortly before he offered his services to the Army.

At that secret session, Lindbergh, reiterated his charge that Britain was responsible for the war and counseled his listeners to bide their time for future political action.

Two others present at last week's meeting were ~~Mary~~ Morton, who was active in an "impeach Roosevelt" movement last year.

NOTE -- Intelligence officials have records of other secret America First gatherings in Chicago, St. Louis and Los Angeles. At these meetings plans were discussed for distributing "literature" to the men in near-by military camps and also for taking part in the coming congressional elections.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.**

CT:DSS

February 26, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

109162

The following is the substance of a conversation with [redacted], of the [redacted] who thought we should know of this:

*Charles* Lindbergh on the evening of January 17, 1942, in the home of a man by the name of [redacted] up in [redacted] County, where something like 35 people were present, made the statement to the America First crowd that we are underground now; this war hysteria will wear off and we will come back.

The story comes to me [redacted] from a person who wants to be nameless. He got the story from [redacted]. You will recall [redacted]. He is in the America First gang up to his ears.

This [redacted] I am informed, is a sinister sort of a figure. [redacted] He is a fellow who keeps to himself and does not circulate very largely."

10-16-90 SP2513160L

Clyde Tolson

*We ought to get to bottom of this*  
*H. Mearns & Son*

RECORDED

INDEXED

COPY IN FILE  
MAR 27 1942

100-4712-302

MAR 31 1942

FILE

March 3, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE. MEMORANDUM

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

Reference is made to Mr. Tolson's memorandum dated February 26, 1942, setting forth the results of his conversation with [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED], regarding a report that Charles Lindbergh, on January 17, 1942, attended a meeting at the home of one [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] County, New York, at which approximately 35 people were present. Lindbergh allegedly made the statement to the America First crowd that "We are underground now; this war hysteria will wear off and we will come back."

You will recall in my memorandum of January 29, 1942, that information contained in a communication from G-2 reflected a meeting on December 17, 1941, at the home of Edwin S. Webster. This communication set forth the gist of Lindbergh's remarks according to the reports of two persons who were present. The portion considered pertinent at this time is as follows: 5-112

\*There is only one danger in the world — that is the yellow danger. China and Japan are really bound together against the white race. There could only have been one efficient weapon against this alliance, underneath the surface, Germany itself could have been this weapon. The ideal set-up would have been to have had Germany take over Poland and Russia, in collaboration with the British, as a bloc against the yellow people and bolshevism. But instead, the British and the fools in Washington had to interfere. The British envied the Germans and wanted to rule the world forever. Britain is the real cause of all the trouble in the world today. (5-1)

"Of course, America First cannot be active right now. But it should keep on the alert and when the large missing lists and losses are published the American people will realize how much they have been betrayed by the British and the Administration. Then America First can be a political force again. We must be quiet a while and await the time for active functioning. There may be a time soon when we can advocate a negotiated peace."

**COPY IN FILE**

Memorandum for the Director

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 109161

It will be noted that there is a striking similarity between the statements contained in the report of G-2 and those related by ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ to Mr. Tolson. The only discrepancy is in the months stated. There were approximately 50 people present at the above meeting, according to the G-2 report, and it appears illogical that Lindbergh would make practically the same statements at the same meeting place, before approximately the same number of people, on the same day of two separate months. Consequently, it is believed that in the transmission of this story from mouth to mouth, an error has occurred in the date of the meeting.

b7c  
b7d  
(S)(C)

As you will recall this Bureau is presently undertaking an investigation of the America First Committee and this particular phase will be given attention by the New York Office.

Respectfully,

*[Signature]*  
D. M. Ladd

*[Handwritten initials]*

11, 1942

Mr. Edgar Hoover, Head FBI  
Washington, D.C.

10-44-70  
SECRET

9159

Respected Sir:

That now 'famous' editorial 'Wake Up, America - It's Late!...' was given to me by a small businessman to read it and to give my opinion.

This little man thought it was the greatest editorial he ever read. He also told me that the editor promised to reprint it because of the acclaim of his readers.

After reading it this 'little man' asked for my opinion. And to his great surprise I told him that that editorial is a first rate A No. 1. fifth column stuff behind the so called 'free press' made in Germany being carried out by the America Firsters -- descendants of the Liberty Leaguers, American types of Hitlerites.

These agents of Hitler first attempted to drive a wedge in between labor and capital in the Congress (Smith's defeated 40 hr. suspension Bill) so as to force labor to go on a general strike against the law, if past, which would mean work stoppage -- Hitler's heart desire.

These fifth columnists did not succeed in Congress; so they try it other ways; first in a nice and good looking American way -- through the 'free press'.

This editorial is a trial balloon. The unsuspected, innocent reader falls for it. "ends a letter of acclaim with his name and address which is being kept in record for future reference and for a treacherous and dirty use.

These are one of the many ways Hitlerites are organizing fifth column groups in every country.

They first create dissatisfaction, disunity and hostilities.

The rest is easy for them.

They are not much afraid, because traitors in this pious land are treated very leniently.

Can you imagine another country, big or small, where they would not put traitors against the wall in war-time?

Finally -- I am very sorry that I am squeezed in a narrow air raid warden's 'office' when I could be of better use to my country elsewhere.

But -- this is America.

We all pay the price for it.

22  
83 APR 20 1942  
cc  
226-42

100-4712-304

b7c

February 12, 1942

109158

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. GLAVIN

RE: [REDACTED]

Special Agent in Charge Hammack of the Atlanta Office advised that with respect to the above applicant, they had interviewed a [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] pointed out that [REDACTED] was a very active member in the America First Committee and was actively engaged in helping the movement, inasmuch as he had seen her receive pouches of literature from Senator Wheeler's office in Chicago and had observed her mailing out envelopes containing this literature. [REDACTED] also pointed out that [REDACTED] had indicated "that democracy was a fine thing for some people but had served its purpose in this country." There was no indication that the applicant shared the view of his wife and as a matter of fact there was some indication that he discouraged her activities with respect to this committee.

\*\*\*\*\*

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Lee

Phone call - 10:25 P. M.  
Dictated - 10:30 P. M.

10-16-90

RECORDED

*[Handwritten signature]*

100-4712-305
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
8 MAR 12 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FIVE

16  
MAR 13 1942



February 12, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

On the basis of information which has been developed in the course of investigating [redacted] and her family of New York City, together with information supplied by G-2 and a Bureau informant, it would appear that members of the America First Committee entertain the hope that the Committee may again become a political force; that they are hiding their time in contemplation of this eventuality, despite the fact that the organization ostensibly concluded its activities following the entrance of the United States into the war. The above-mentioned Bureau informant has reported that the Committee has now gone underground under the leadership of Charles A. Lindbergh. (100-4712-270, G-2; Informant [redacted] 100-50729-19, technical surveil-

With regard to Lindbergh, you will recall my memorandum of January 29, 1942, setting forth the fact that it was developed through technical surveillance in the course of investigating [redacted] that Lindbergh spoke at length on December 17, 1941, at a dinner meeting of members of the America First Committee assembled at the home of Edwin S. Webster, Jr., 35 Beekman Street, New York City. Webster was New York Secretary of the Committee. It is recalled that Lindbergh stated that for years America has been speaking of the "Yellow Peril," yet we are now fighting on the side of the Russians and Chinese. It was reported that Lindbergh appeared discouraged with the United States Government on account of the fact that in his opinion it has no plan nor does it know for what it is fighting. (100-50729-19) RECORDED

It is also recalled that my memorandum of January 29, 1942, set forth a communication received from G-2 with regard to this meeting addressed by Lindbergh on December 17, 1941. This communication and is not on record. When original is received in Files Division it will be filed either in full or may be given a synopsis.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Holloman
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

100-4712-30  
JAN 26 1942  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



Memorandum for the Director

Page 2

sets forth the gist of Lindbergh's remarks, according to reports of two persons who were present, as follows:

"There is only one danger in the world - that is the yellow danger. China and Japan are really bound together against the white race. There could only have been one efficient weapon against this alliance, underneath the surface. Germany itself could have been this weapon. The ideal set-up would have been to have had Germany take over Poland and Russia, in collaboration with the British, as bloc against the yellow people and bolshevism. But instead, the British and the fools in Washington had to interfere. The British envied the Germans and wanted to rule the world forever. Britain is the real cause of all the trouble in the world today.

"Of course, America First cannot be active right now. But it should keep on the alert and when the large missing lists and losses are published the American people will realize how much they have been betrayed by the British and the Administration. Then America First can be a political force again. We must be quiet a while and wait the time for active functioning. There may be a time soon when we can advocate a negotiated peace." (100-4712-270)

With further regard to the America First Committee, a Bureau informant has advised that [REDACTED] b2D

Further information as supplied by this informant has been received to the effect that a series of house parties is to keep alive contacts of the America First Committee. It is also reported that the backbone of the Committee, particularly in the East, under the leadership of the followers of Reverend Charles Coughlin, is soon to come out with a new organization.

Memorandum for the Director

Page 3

ACTION

Inasmuch as it appears that the America First Committee is being revived and may be contemplating activities detrimental to the war effort of the United States, a memorandum has been prepared relative to the structure, activities, and connections of the Committee as it was organized prior to its allegedly going out of existence following our entry into the war. A memorandum of transmittal of the above-mentioned memorandum has been prepared for the Attorney General, together with an appropriate letter of transmittal to the White House. The cover memorandum to the Attorney General and the letter to the White House contain the pertinent information relative to the recent reports concerning the revival of the America First Committee as an underground organization.

The activities of the America First Committee will be closely followed on the basis of reports concerning its revival as an underground organization. In this connection the Attorney General is being advised that an investigation will be conducted into the various ramifications and connections of the Committee, unless in his opinion reason obtains for not conducting such investigation.

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.  
March 11, 1942

100-6882

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

5/12/86 86 by [unclear] #262359  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/30/84 BY SP8 [unclear]  
Comp # 242,992  
Re: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE 10-16-90  
SP8BTS/ COL

Dear Sir:

As has been reported LAURA H. INGALLS was convicted on February 13 as a foreign agent who failed to register under the requirements of the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

INGALLS, during the course of her activities for the German government, was very active for the America First Committee and spoke numerous times in New York State and throughout the Middle West and as far West as California. During the course of her speaking engagements for the America First Committee, she became well acquainted with their officials and obtained from them and from their research bureau a large quantity of America First literature and speakers' bulletins. This information, together with the names of numerous committee chairmen throughout the country and also a list of the speaking dates and the names of the speakers and where they spoke during the time the America First Committee was active, and also a considerable quantity of literature from other sources, which was distributed by the America First Committee, was found among her possessions obtained by search warrants during the course of the preparation of the INGALLS case for trial.

This information and evidence concerning the America First Committee are being maintained in the files of the Washington Field Office as exhibits in the INGALLS case, and it is not being reported except in so far as individuals, since they are believed to be proper subjects for investigation.

In the event of an investigation of the America First Committee activities, the above information would be of considerable value, and for that reason the Bureau is being advised of the existence of this evidence at this time.

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

Yours

S. K. McKEE

Special Agent in Charge

100-4712-307  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
MAR 14 1942  
[Redacted]

lett to  
[unclear]  
3/16/42

100-4718-307

March 26, 1942

Special Agent in Charge  
Washington, D. C.

Re: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY-C

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your communication dated March 11, 1942, on the above captioned matter advising that considerable material was secured in the investigation of Laura Houghtaling Ingalls, with aliases, Internal Security-C, Registration Act, with reference to the America First Committee.

In this regard, please refer to Bureau letter to all Special Agents in Charge, dated March 16, 1942, regarding an investigation into activities of these groups endeavoring to revive the America First Committee. It is requested that the pertinent material obtained in the investigation of Laura Houghtaling Ingalls be included in the first investigative report of the above captioned organization.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

5/12/86 subpoena # 22359  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/30/84 BY SP5 HIL/CL  
2nd 47, 942  
SOSBTJ/CCL  
10-16-90

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 6

★ MAR 27 1942 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-ROOM 5640  
MAR 26 9 09 PM '42

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Saturday, Sept. 27, 1941. b7C b7D

Today I talked to a [REDACTED] who is employed.

at [REDACTED]  
From him it was learned that [REDACTED] is employed as [REDACTED]. He stated that [REDACTED] has told him that the men in the R.R. shops are strong for the C.I.O. and that many men have already signed up and that [REDACTED] also has signed up. 72524

Tonight at [REDACTED]'s place a hot discussion about the America First Committee took place. [REDACTED] was talking to a group of men at the bar, and said that from the latest report he has received, which were issued from the Communist Party Headquarters in Pittsburgh, it is very surprising how fast the America First Committee was spreading and growing. [REDACTED] said that "this is a warning against us; we have got to stop, look and listen. What the America First Committee really stands for, and what it is aimed at, is not only their propaganda to keep America out of war, but their main object is to destroy the Communists and unionism. Who are the America First Committee? They are a handful of capitalists like the Morgans, Kuhn Loeb's, Wheelers and others, who they use Charles Lindbergh as their stooge. These Capitalists all have Nazi support and their flag, the Swastika, is the emblem of the America First Committee. This committee plays Hitler's game in America, and the accident is Lindbergh their leader in spreading anti-Semitic propaganda as that is Hitler's method of creating disunity against Jews and [REDACTED]."

1 ENCL. 34  
MAR 24 1942 6

OCT 22 1941

Best copy available b7C



# To The Jewish People of America

**FELLOW JEWS OF AMERICA!**

**JEWISH WORKERS, BUSINESS MEN, PROFESSIONALS  
AND INTELLECTUALS!**

The fate of America, the fate of all the peoples of the world, as well as the fate of the Jewish people is being decided on the battlefields of the Soviet Union, in the struggle of the USSR and Britain against Hitler and Hitlerism.

Hitler—the most cruel enslaver of peoples, who has already placed his deadly yoke over the bleeding bodies of fourteen nations;

Hitler—the modern Haman who, in the process of conquest, has already annihilated thousands upon thousands of Jews in Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania, France, Lithuania and Latvia;

Hitler—who is out to conquer the world and who plans the extermination of the 17 million Jews of the world; **HAS ATTACKED THE SOVIET UNION IN HIS MAD MARCH TO ENSLAVE THE UNIVERSE.**

The Nazi forces have attacked the great and peace-loving Soviet Union, where all peoples, nationalities and races live in harmony and brotherhood and work together in kinship and fraternity; a country in which the harsh pages of Jewish history, recording pogroms and inquisitions and blood and tears, have given way to a new era of complete equality and freedom.

10-16-90  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/16/00 BY SP8BTJ/KRG  
6124181 SP8BTJ/KRG 249.8



The Nazis have invaded the country in which six million of our brothers and sisters—for the first time in the persecution-ridden history of our people—lead dignified and secure lives.

### THREAT TO AMERICA

The United States is a major objective of Hitler's drive for world domination. The security, freedom and independence of the American people is seriously threatened by the murderous arrogance of the Nazi war machine.

The entire world is concerned with the outcome of the historic battle against the Nazi hordes. The British people, the four hundred million Chinese people, all of the peoples enslaved by Hitler, and our great and freedom-loving American people, realize that should Hitler defeat his bitterest enemy, the Soviet Union, the entire world would be transformed into a Nazi hell.

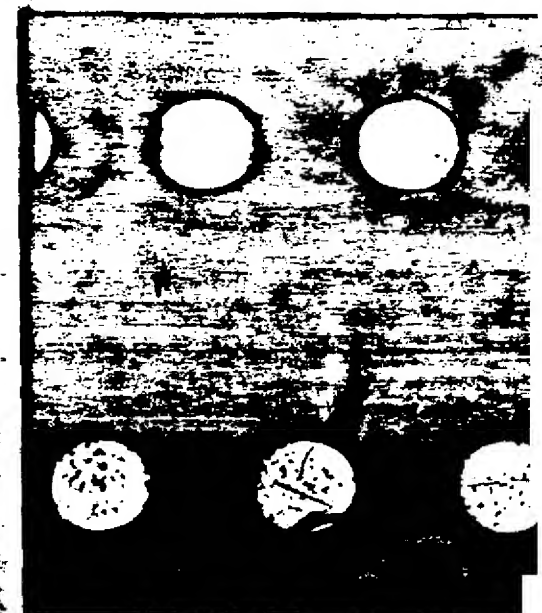
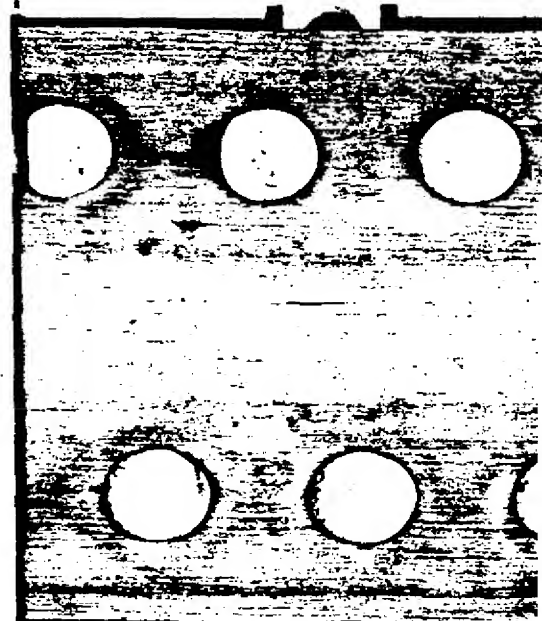
For the 17 million Jews in the world this would mean ghettos, yellow badges, segregation and discrimination. It would mean pogroms and the destruction of our people.

Hitler in Germany, Skoropadsky in the Ukraine, Petain in France, the Mosleys in England, the Coughlins, Pelleys and Lindberghs in America would organize fascist bands to terrorize the workers and the people in every country and lead the crusade to exterminate the Jews throughout the world.

To the great fortune of all of humanity and of the Jewish people, the Soviet Union and its fearless Red Army are united with Britain, in firm determination to put an end to Hitlerism. The permanent and total annihilation of Hitlerism will no doubt be the outcome of this great, historic battle.

To guarantee and hasten this outcome the entire world must come to the aid of Britain and the Soviet Union immediately. The American people, in keeping with the great tradition of liberty of our founding fathers, must render every possible moral and material aid. The trade union, *landsmanshaft*, and fraternal organizations, religious institutions and organizations, nationalist, Socialist, Communist, Republican, Democratic and Labor Party organizations must raise their voices in a demand for aid to the Soviet Union and Britain which will resound through the length and breadth of our country.

Through resolutions and public demonstrations we must approve the stand of our government, which has promised aid to the Soviet Union.





Union and England and we must demand the most effective and most rapid aid.

### UNITY FOR VICTORY

The freedom of the world is at stake. The security of America is at stake. We cannot delay or equivocate. And we cannot let the friends of Hitler dig a grave for the liberty of America. We must wage a ceaseless battle against the Lindberghs, Wheelers, Fords, Hoovers, Coughlins, Hearsts and Norman Thomases who want to help Hitler by sabotaging American aid to the enemies of Hitlerism.

The five million Jews in the United States have a sacred task. First, we must establish complete unity among ourselves, in our own ranks. We Jews of America, loyal and devoted citizens, must help all the forces in our government who stand for aid to England and the Soviet Union and the military defeat of Hitlerism.

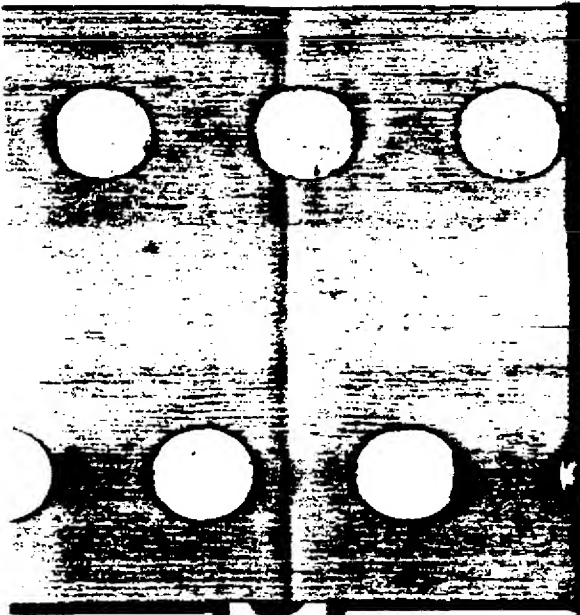
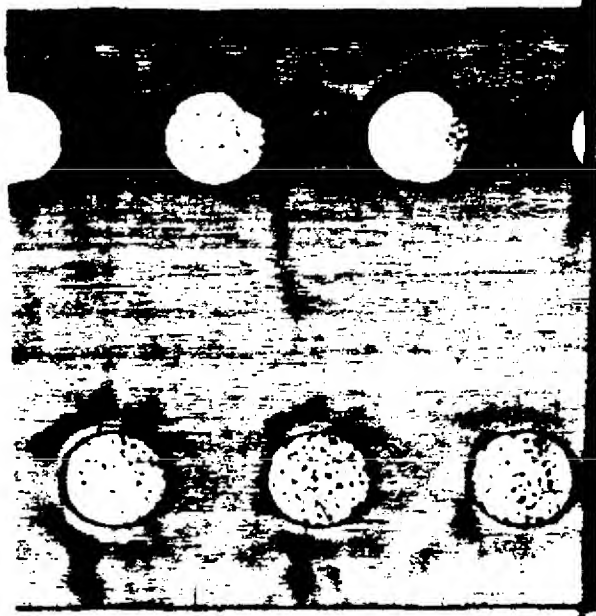
Secondly, we must unite with the entire American people in a mighty movement which will wipe out Hitlerism.

Political, religious and other differences must not be allowed to divide our ranks in this crucial hour.

Hundreds of thousands of Jews in the Soviet Union and many of our relatives in the Red Army are giving their lives in the battle against fascism. Jacob Shmuskevitch, chief of the Red Air force, is one of the many Jews in the Soviet Union displaying the fighting courage of our people. The Jews in the Nazi-occupied countries are risking their lives, together with the Polish, Ukrainian, White Russian, Lithuanian and Rumanian workers and peasants in heroic guerilla warfare behind the Nazi lines. In the same spirit we here cannot sit back passively. The danger confronting us is too great. And the hope and promise before us is even greater. Hitler is engaged in battle with the mightiest and most determined foe of fascism—the Soviet Union. The Soviet peoples, the Red Army and the British people, with the aid of America, will dig the grave of Hitlerism.

### OUR SACRED TASK

Every shop, every union, every fraternal, religious, political, social, youth and other organization should raise its voice through resolutions, or in any other form, demanding immediate effective aid to Britain and the Soviet Union. All Jewish organizations have a common interest to unite in a campaign anti-Fascism. This need must be met immediately in the synagogue, Jewish



and religious schools, in the *landsmanschaften*, women's organizations, youth organizations and all organizations of the Jewish people.

Wherever we come in contact with Americans of other national groups, in the factories, trade unions and elsewhere, we must unite. We must lock hands with the Irish, Italian, Negro, Ukrainian, Russian, Polish and other American groups in the fight against fascism.

Let every organization and institution arrange meetings to demand aid to defeat Hitlerism.

In this struggle we need the greatest possible unity. Under no circumstances should we permit political differences of opinion to divide us. Every obstacle in the path of unity to defend America and defeat Hitlerism weakens our ranks and plays into the hands of Hitler.

Sisters and Brothers! Fellow Jews of America! The hour has struck! Hitler is engaged in his last battle. The Soviet Union, the Red Army, the British people, in collaboration with the U.S.A., the peoples of the world will defeat him. Hitler's end is in sight.

Forward to the sacred task of smashing Hitlerism, which will lead humanity out of the hell of wars, bloodshed, hunger, and oppression.

Forward to the struggle for a new, free, happy life for all the peoples of the world—the only guarantee of a free, peaceful, happy life for the Jews.

Forward to the struggle against our enemy—Hitler and Hitlerism.

Forward to unity in our own community and unity with the entire American people and victory will be ours.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH COMMUNISTS

MAX STEINBERG, Secretary

35 East 12th Street, New York City

**READ THE "DAILY WORKER"  
AND "MORNING FREIHEIT"**

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CONFIDENTIAL



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1. The first part of the document is a letter from the President of the United States to the Congress, dated January 1, 1861. It is a copy of the original letter, and is signed by the President.

# "STRAIGHT TALK FOR DEFENSE"

[Reprinted from the DAILY WORKER, September 13, 1941]

**P**RESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S order to the Navy to clear all enemy ships from waters necessary to our defense, is plain common sense. It is the very least that could be done and actually much more is required in view of the great peril confronting our country.

The American people as a whole are firmly opposed to Hitler and they want to defend the United States. But many of them are confused by the traitorous action of the appeasers, Hitler's Fifth Column.

It has been a weakness of the administration that it has not sufficiently combatted this Fifth Column. It has not previously given the people a full realization of the danger facing us at this very moment.

However, the President's speech, as far as it goes, should help dispel any doubts as to the reality of the Nazi menace. When the President declared that "the Nazi danger to our Western World has long ceased to be a mere possibility; the danger is here now..." he was uttering a truth which should awaken and unite the entire country.

Never in all the world have there been more open acts of war than those which the Nazis have already committed against American shipping and American lives. It is not a question of getting into the war—Hitler has already made war upon us. The question is whether we will defeat the enemy or whether we will be beaten without even defending ourselves.

The arrogant replies of Berlin and Rome within 24 hours, boasting of wholesale sinkings and threatening to shoot on sight, only constitute further evidence that the President acted none too soon.

It was significant that no sooner had the President warned of the Nazi "rattlesnake" menacing us from without, when right here at home a Copperhead, Charles Lindbergh, coiled and struck at our security from within.

It is time for the administration and all anti-fascist forces to realize that we are endangered by Nazi rattlesnakes and copperhead traitors both.

The moves outlined by Mr. Roosevelt to safeguard our shipping to the Allies, should be supplemented by further steps:

This is the time to send enormous quantities of war materials to the Eastern Front where they are being consumed at a terrific rate in the struggle against the common foe.

This is the time for closer collaboration between the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union.

This is the time to give aid to the people of conquered Europe, to withdraw our Ambassador from Vichy, to deal with Japan with a firm hand and no appeasement.

This is the time to open up an effective Western Front so that a crushing blow can be delivered to Hitler.

Such measures are absolutely essential to the continued existence of the United States as an independent nation. Labor and the people as a whole should rally behind such a program.

The United States is in the most extreme danger that it has faced since the battle of Gettysburg. We are being attacked; a gigantic power is making war upon us. It is trifling with the very life of the United States for our forces not to be fully used in the defense of the nation.

• Read the only real anti-fascist newspaper in Pittsburgh!

**READ THE DAILY AND SUNDAY WORKER**

**SOLD AT THE FOLLOWING NEWSTANDS:**

Old Post Office, 4th & Smithfield  
New Post Office, 7th & Grant  
10th & Liberty (At bus station)  
Rose's News-store, 1332—5th Ave.

P. & A. News, 220 Federal St., N. S.  
6th & Wylie News  
Wabash Bldg. Cor., Liberty & Ferry  
Hirsch's News, 1623 Centre Ave.

**DAILY WORKER OFFICE — Room 407, 305 Seventh Avenue — Pittsburgh, Penna.**

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October 4, 1940

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

Multiple Source  
10-17-90  
318,519

5/4/84 Multiple Sign  
Declassify on: OADR

The Bureau's information on the America First Committee has not resulted from investigation initiated by this Bureau but has been either voluntarily submitted by outside sources, received as an incident to other investigation, or extracted from articles which have appeared in the press. Because of this limitation, a full and complete analysis of the organization cannot be presented.

Only a brief reference to the professed principles and objectives of the America First Committee will be made. The Committee declared that the most complete presentation of its views was set forth in a speech entitled "Our Foreign Policy" delivered by Acting Chairman General Robert E. Wood on October 4, 1940, before the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations. General Wood contended that the ideology of the totalitarian states, which it is alleged must be destroyed, cannot be destroyed by war; that our protection does not depend upon Britain; that if we are properly prepared internally we need have no fear of invasion even though Britain falls; and that a German-dominated Europe would not destroy our foreign trade war would it be impossible for our presently existing economic order to compete with such a Europe. From this, it follows that intervention is not only unnecessary, but should be prevented at all costs in order to avoid the attendant financial loss and destruction of life.

The objective of the Committee then becomes one of bringing together all those who concur in the opinion that pressure should be brought from all directions against the United States' entry into the war. The Committee contends that the course presently being pursued by the Government will inevitably lead us into the war, and that this is being done without the masses' knowledge, 86 per cent of whom in October, 1940, were opposed to entry into the war. The Committee has announced through its representative that it favors the administration's rearmament program and supports the policy of giving Britain all possible aid as long as such aid does not tend in any way to directly involve the United States in the European conflict.

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by Letter 3-1-76  
Per FOIA Request

1 ENCL. 16

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Holloman
- Mr. Quinn Tamm

1 ENCL. 16  
318,519

FOI/PA # 262259  
APPEAL #  
CIVILIST #  
E.O. # 112356

RECORDED

100-4712-30

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

18 MAR 28 1942

5-1 information declassified  
per Army letter dated 8/14/91  
923 new copy 8/14/91  
Pg. 16 contains  
remains unclassified  
Letter dated 8/14/91  
923 new copy 8/14/91

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### ORGANIZATION

#### Origin

The America First Committee was incorporated in the State of Illinois on September 19, 1940. Its national headquarters have always been located at 1806 Board of Trade Building, Chicago, Illinois. The publications of the Committee fail to disclose the individuals who conceived the idea of such a Committee and the precise reasons for its creation. The officers and directors at the time of its founding consisted of the following:

#### Officers

##### Acting Chairman

- General Robert E. Wood of Chicago, Illinois; graduate of West Point; present Chairman of the Board of Directors of Sears, Roebuck and Company.

##### National Director and Secretary

- R. Douglas Stuart, Jr.; son of R. Douglas Stuart of the Quaker Oats Company; senior in the Yale Law School prior to the time he became associated with the America First Committee.

##### Treasurer

- J. Sanford Otis; Vice President of the Central Republic Bank of Chicago.

#### Board of Directors

##### Hanford MacNider

- Mason City, Iowa; banker; former National Commander of the American Legion; former Assistant Secretary of War, 1925-1928.

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General Thomas Hammond

- Harvey, Illinois; Retired United States Army Officer; President of the Whiting Corporation, crane and foundry equipment manufacturers; Chairman of the Republican Party in Illinois.

J. C. Normal

- Formerly associated with the Normal meat packing company of Austin, Minnesota.

Clay Jolson

- Chicago, Illinois; attorney; Former President of the Chicago Council of Foreign Relations; Member of the Board of Trustees of United Charities, Chicago, Illinois.

A pamphlet issued by the Committee in October, 1940, lists members of the National Committee, among whom were the following:

General Robert E. Wood  
J. Sanford Otis  
Janet Ayer Fairbank  
J. C. Normal  
Clay Jolson  
Captain Edward Rickenbacker  
Lessing J. Rosenwald  
Harford MacNider  
Dr. Anton Julius Carlson

R. Douglas Stuart, Jr.  
Mrs. Bennett Champ Clark  
Henry Ford  
General Hugh S. Johnson  
Alice Roosevelt Longworth  
Mrs. Burton K. Wheeler  
General Thomas Hammond

William E. Castle

- University of Chicago Professor and member of the Civil Liberties Union; a national pacifist of alleged decidedly left wing sympathies.

John T. Flynn

- Former Assistant Secretary of State and Ambassador to Japan.

Kathryn Lewis

- Author of "Country Squire in the White House."

- Daughter of John L. Lewis

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Thomas H. McCarter

Former Attorney General of New Jersey and President of the Public Service Corporation of New Jersey; Director of the Chase National Bank and other financial companies.

Sterling Morton

- Morton Salt Company

William H. Regnary

- Chicago millionaire

Edward L. Ryerson, Jr.

- Chairman of the Board of Inland Steel.

Louis J. Faber

- Nationally known agriculturalist

Dr. George H. Whipple

- Noted pathologist

On April 28, 1941, Social Justice announced that Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh had joined the America First Committee. (100-4481 "The Hour", news letter, Anti-Nazi)

b7c  
b7D  
With reference to the Committee's founding, [redacted] expressed the opinion that the Committee was set up in opposition to the propaganda being disseminated by the William Allen White Committee. This informant pointed out that Colonel Lindbergh and [redacted] both had considerable influence with Colonel Robert R. McCormick, editor and publisher of the Chicago Tribune, whom they induced to take an interest in the organization. (100-4812-10; [redacted])

This informant also expressed the opinion that the Committee at the time of its founding was unquestionably patriotic. He stated that because of the liberalism expressed by some of the members, William J. Grace, Avery Brundage, and W. H. Regnary severed their connections with the Committee. [redacted]

[redacted] submitted a memorandum dated January 17, 1941, which alleged that in the summer of 1940, Senator and Mrs. Barton K. Wheeler and Dorothy Detzer, Director of the Women's International League for Peace

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b7c and associate of J. T. Flynn, publisher of "Unsecured", interested General Wood in the formation of such an organization. Also mentioned in connection with its founding was a so-called pacifist radical monthly called "Equality", in the September issue of which appeared Senator Wheeler's "Defend America First" article and John L. Lewis' article against conscription. This source reported that the Washington, D. C., group of the Committee was organized and directed by Dorothy Detzer and William R. Castle. It is to be noted that Dorothy Detzer is said to consider herself the "brains" of the America First Committee. [REDACTED] by L.M.C. Smith)

John L. Spivak in his series of articles entitled "America First Exposed" which appeared in the September 30, October 7, and October 14, 1941, issues of "New Masses", declared that the idea for the formation of such a Committee was born in the mind of R. Douglas Stuart, Jr., who interested General R. E. Wood, William H. Ragnary, "a Chicago multi-millionaire", and Clay Jackson in such a movement. Spivak contended that Lindbergh was not named on the original Committee because of his reputation for being strongly pro-Nazi.

#### Membership and Promotion

According to Spivak, the scope of the Committee is nationwide and Robert L. Bliss, formerly Director of Organization in the National Office and now Director of the New York Chapter, stated that there are about 250 chapters of the America First Committee and 750 units throughout the country. When questioned as to the number of members, the Managing Director R. Douglas Stuart, Jr., estimated that there were about 5,000,000. This figure, however, was unsubstantiated by any fact, and was considered by Spivak to be greatly exaggerated. (New Masses, Oct. 7, p. 9)

In some states the activities have been sufficiently extensive to warrant state incorporation as was the case in California, New York, and Missouri. It appears that all units recognize the national headquarters and profess to follow the same principles and objectives, although the activities vary in different sections, depending upon the tendencies and influence of the sectional leaders. In view of the speeches and public addresses given by representatives of the Committee, it would appear that all sections of the

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country have been influenced by the Committee and that efforts of the Committee have been concentrated in the population centers of the nation.

John L. Spivak contended that "The America First Committee, while trying to create the impression that it has a large mass following is run and chiefly financed by a small clique of 'smart money' boys." To substantiate this contention, Spivak refers to the number of wealthy individuals who are members of the National Committee and to other wealthy patrons among whom are Ernest T. Weir, Chairman of the National Steel Corporation; H. L. Stuart, President of Halsey, Stuart, and Company, Chicago; and Max W. Babb, President of Allie-Chalmers. (New Masses, 9/30)

With reference to the promotional activities of the Committee, it is to be noted that it contends that all work of the Committee is purely voluntary. This was said to be true of the speakers of the organization as well as the organizers. However, Spivak points out that many of the lecturers and speakers are paid for their services even though such speakers are members of the Committee. It has been reported that at the time Don Imbock organized a unit of the America First Committee in Oklahoma, he stated that he had formerly been an organizer for the American Peace Mobilization but had been induced to work for the America First Committee because it had greater funds with which to finance promotional work. Within the past two months, an informant has advised that the Committee has recently been compelled to terminate the services of some of its paid organizers through lack of funds and has been called upon to accept financial assistance from pro-Nazi sources. (Sent, 100-4712; [redacted])

Sent 2, 3, New Masses; Sent 4, 61-10498-875, [redacted]

Sent 5, G-2)

Funds

There has been no indication that the America First Committee has at any time submitted financial statements or given any other information concerning the extent of its resources. Spivak opens his series of articles with the statement that "the America First Committee has received a minimum of over \$1,000,000 from unidentified sources for its propaganda work." Spivak explained that the Committee refused to make available any financial statistics other than the fact that the Chicago office alone,

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for instance, collected \$231,000 during a ten-month period, and the New York Chapter, \$112,000 in a six-month period. Using what he considered to be conservative estimates with regard to the other Chapters throughout the country, Spivak concluded that the America First Committee raised over \$1,000,000 during the past year. The Chicago office reported that of the \$231,000 collected during a ten-month period ending on June 1, 1941, \$207,000 was spent of which \$42,000 was allocated to pay roll for the Chicago office alone. (New Masses, Oct. 7)

After repeatedly refusing the New York Herald Tribune's request for a list of the names of the contributors to the America First Committee, General Wood finally made available a partial list. He explained that numerous contributors had preferred not to have their names mentioned. (New Masses, Oct. 7)

It does not appear how successful the Committee has been in raising funds by nationwide appeals either through circulars and publications of the Committee or through public addresses and radio. There is evidence that funds have been received from organizations with Nazi and Communist connections, specific instances of which will be set forth hereinafter.

#### ACTIVITIES AND CONNECTIONS

The following information will relate primarily to activities and connections of the Committee which have been subjected to adverse criticism by the press and radio, or which have been allegedly associated with foreign subversive elements. An attempt will be made to separate the information set forth into first: that pertaining to activities and connections relating to organizations, individuals, and movements which can be described as being internal in nature and not directly connected with any foreign source, and secondly: that dealing with activities and connections which are either connected with, or directly influenced by, groups or interests such as the Nazis, Communists, Fascists, and others which are associated with forces essentially foreign.

#### Internal

#### Anti-Administration Issues

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The most highly publicized and perhaps most representative activities of the National Committee are carried out by the sponsorship of meetings and rallies at which designated representatives of the Committee set forth the official views of that body. Such public declarations of the Committee's policies and views of necessity have been carefully considered by the Committee and have, therefore, contained nothing pertinent to this memorandum. Attention, however, is called to the fact that there is a discernible trend toward a more radical expression of opinion on the part of official representatives of the Committee which has resulted in much adverse criticism. During the first eight months of the Committee's existence, the speakers have confined themselves chiefly to a criticism of the President's foreign policy with occasional charges that the Administration's foreign policy was pro-British, rather than pro-American. Pamphlets of the America First Committee raised the question "Are You Ready to Make the United States A Dictatorship?" and referred to the Lend-Lease Bill as a "war dictatorship bill."

During the past four months, however, prominent speakers of the Committee such as Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh, Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana, Senator Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota, and former Governor Philip F. La Follette of Wisconsin, have inserted statements in their speeches which have resulted in their having the label "subversive" attached to their declarations. In his Des Moines speech on September 16, 1941, Lindbergh openly declared that the United States was being drawn into the European conflict by "the British, the Jews, and the Roosevelt Administration", openly raising for the first time the anti-Semitic issue. This reference to the Jews resulted in criticism of the Committee from all sections of the country. The Chicago Daily News of September 23, 1941, quoted Senator Nye as saying that the "foreign-born magnates of the Jewish faith" were primarily responsible for "propaganda" in the films. In his Fort Wayne, Indiana, speech on October 2, 1941, Colonel Lindbergh declared that that speech might be his last. He also declared that the end of free election was in sight and stated, "We must face the fact that you and I and our generation have lost our American heritage." (100-4712-A, Extracts from news clipping)

This same charge - that the American people might expect to have the 1942 election suspended - was made by former Governor Philip F. La Follette on November 1, 1941, in a speech delivered in Washington, D. C. In this speech, La Follette was said to have openly called for an insurrection by

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"fearless red-blooded Americans to overthrow the 'War Party' government ..... and to have stated that ".....if the administration using a 'rubber stamp Congress' tries to postpone elections, we, the real 'American Party', will call upon all real Americans to fight for their freedom right here as their forefathers fought in the revolution." (100-4712-189, [REDACTED])

It is to be noted that the Washington Times Herald of July 14, 1941, reported that the America First Committee had adopted a resolution recommending the removal of Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox for allegedly advocating that the United States Navy intervene in the war at that time. (100-4712-4, 7/14/41) b7c b7d

Reference is made to an article appearing in the Pasadena Independence (California) of June 16, 1941, covering an America First rally in that city. Charles Cobb, Acting Chairman of the group, declared in his address that he did not believe a British victory possible or desirable, and outlined his belief in the theory that the world is destined to be controlled by the new world forces, consisting of the three great centers of power - Europe, Asia, and the Americas. He also made reference to former Ambassador Gushy's declaration that at no time had Hitler's statements indicated an intention inimical to the United States. He described Czechoslovakia as a dagger pointed at the heart of Germany. The above remarks suggest a Nazi propaganda source. Another speaker at this same meeting, Dr. Michael Francis Dillon, objected to the use of the United States troops in breaking the strike at the North American Aircraft Corporation at Inglewood, California, and the proposed use of concentration camps for handling conscientious objectors. The Federal Bureau of Investigation was paralleled to the Gestapo, and the Dies Committee was described as a tool of the FBI. (100-4712-76)

In connection with this phase of the Committee's activities, reference is made to the alleged use of the franking privilege by Senators Wheeler and Nye. Spivak particularly stressed this matter and the "New Masses" carried photographs of a franked envelope of Senator Nye, which envelope set forth that the enclosed letter contained an "extension of remarks by Hon. Gerald P. Nye" concerning the "Radio address delivered by Theodore F. Hoffmann, National Chairman, Steuben Society of America." Also shown was an envelope with Senator Wheeler's frank pertaining to material of the same nature which he had read into the Congressional Record.

(Sent 21st issue of the New Masses)  
[REDACTED]  
(New Masses, Oct. 7)

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Reference is also made to an article in the Washington Times Herald of September 26, 1941, which tells of franked mail being subpoenaed from the offices of the America First Washington headquarters. This mail, which bore the franks of seven non-interventionist Congressmen, was said to have been moved from the offices of Prescott Bennett, Secretary of the Make Europe Pay Committee, to the America First headquarters just prior to seizure. (100-4712-4)

Interference With Armed Forces

During the past four months, several different sources have submitted information charging the America First Committee with the sponsorship of a campaign directed toward creating disharmony within the ranks of the army forces. The Military Intelligence Division on July 6, 1941, reported that the America First Committee within the Ninth Corps Area District of the Army appeared to be falling under the control of the radical elements who were conducting anti-war propaganda campaigns near army posts in that area. The Office of Naval Intelligence reported on April 29, 1941, that a member of the crew of the U.S.S. HMB, a United States Destroyer, had been active aboard ship in inducing twelve enlisted men to join the America First Committee. (61-7559-11760)

(57)(X)  
On July 15, 1941, an informant advised the Bureau that the Chicago, Illinois, section of the Committee was said to be circularizing the parents, relatives, and wives of the men in the armed forces with a view toward enlisting their support in the movement. Another source reported that in Westchester County, New York, near Fort Slocum, the America First Committee had distributed folding post cards which were sent to parents and relatives of the enlisted men, one side of which could be detached and mailed to the soldiers. These post cards made an emotional appeal, stressing the hardship and loss of life attendant upon our entry into this war. (51)(X)

(100-7660-178, Sept. 1941, G-2, report of the 2nd Corps Area)

On July 29, 1941, an enlistee told of a clerk in the America First Committee office in New Rochelle, New York, expressing the opinion in that office that she sympathized with members of the service who deserted and encouraged the spreading of America First propaganda among the armed forces.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ (100-4712-107, G-2) (51)(X)

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**Memorandum for the  
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**Page 11**

On September 26, 1941, the Military Intelligence Division told of an America First Committee employee, named J. Guy Jansman, distributing anti-war propaganda among soldiers in the New York area around Fort M.E. Jansman was said to be a former officer of the German-American Bund.

(S-1)(C)

**Anti-Semitic Connections**

While the anti-Semitic issue did not break out openly until Lindbergh's Des Moines address in September, there is considerable indication that certain individuals connected with the Committee and certain so-called American Fascist groups which supported the Committee were using the Committee as an instrument for advancing their anti-Jewish theories. John Spivak charged that the following individuals, interested in the Committee at the time of its founding, are all anti-Semitic - Henry Ford, Sterling Morton, William Castle, and Avery Brundage. He contended that the America First Director of Organization admitted that Brundage was dropped from the Committee because of his anti-Semitic reputation. He pointed out that Morton was known to have financed Jung's American Vigilant Intelligence Federation which distributed the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion." He also called attention to a letter written by William Castle in which he expressed his dislike of the Jews. (New Masses, 9/30, p. 5/16/41)

Spivak also charged that the Committee has several anti-Semites on its lecture staff. He called particular attention to the fact that Reverend Edward Lodge Curran, who is described as Fatheroughlin's chief apostle in the East and who has been said to have worked with such groups as the German-American Bund, German-American Business League, the American Nationalists, and the Citizens' Protective League, gave the invocation at the Brooklyn America First rally on May 14, 1941. Spivak also alleged that on December 9, 1940, Mrs. Barbara McDonald, head of the Speaker's Bureau of the Committee's National office, wrote to Edward James Smythe, of the Protestant War Veterans, thanking him for agreeing to speak at the Philadelphia America First meeting on December 16th. Smythe was described as a vicious anti-Semite who has openly boasted of arranging a joint meeting with the Ku Klux Klan and the German-American Bund at Camp Nordland.

(New Masses, Oct. 7, 1941, issue, p. 6)

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"The Hour", an alleged confidential newsletter sponsored by the American Council Against Nazi Propaganda, Incorporated, and supported by the Anti-Defamation League has devoted a great deal of space in an effort to establish the connection between the America First Committee and anti-Semitic forces in the country. In the April 26, 1941, issue, "The Hour" calls attention to the number of outstanding leaders of alleged subversive groups who attended the America First rally held at Manhattan Center on April 23, 1941. The following were named: (100-4481-6: [REDACTED])

"August Klapprott, Bund leader now out on bail after conviction in New Jersey on charges of incitement to hate; Gustav Kiner, treasurer of the Bund; Lawrence Dennis, well-known fascist 'theoretician', author of 'The Coming American Fascism'; George A. Van Nostrand, Bund member, former president of the Crusaders for Americanism; Edward James Baythe, intimate of Bundites, KKK leader, staunch Hitlerite and violent anti-Semite; Mrs. Leonora Schuyler (on platform), bigwig in the Allied Patriotic Society, frequenter of Christian Front and Mobilizer meetings; Mrs. Cooper, a leader in the fascist Paul Revere Sentinels, a friend and co-worker of Mrs. Schuyler; Edward Banta, former witness before the Dies Committee, now employed by the American Women Against Communism, a fascist organization; James Stewart, street-corner speaker of the Christian Mobilizers and member of their inner council; Daniel Morgan, bodyguard of the American Destiny Party leader, Joseph McWilliams; James McGee, Christian Front propagandist; Edmund Burke, Christian Mobilizer speaker and organizer, a jailbird; George F. Boian, leading member of the U. S. branch of the Roumanian Iron Guard, disseminator of pro-Nazi propaganda; Reverend Herbert Lewis, Bund and Christian Front member; and dozens of other similar gentry."

b7c  
b7d

In other issues of this publication, bitter attacks are made against Father Coughlin's Social Justice group and Joseph McWilliams' American Destiny Party, both of which are said to support the America First Committee. (100-4481; Issue of the Hour)

[REDACTED]

(S) [REDACTED] (S)  
b1

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Memorandum for the  
Attorney General

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Because of Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh's activities on behalf of the America First Committee and his alleged interest in "Scribner's Commentator", it is significant that Spivak stated that at the time he interviewed John T. Flynn, the New York America First Chapter's Chairman, Flynn mistakenly stated that he thought Charles S. Teyson, a publisher of "Scribner's Commentator" was a member of the Directing Board of the America First Committee. "Scribner's Commentator" has been described as the mouthpiece of Colonel Lindbergh and as being notoriously anti-Semitic. (New Masses, 9/30)

Information has been received associating the notorious American Fascist, Merwin K. Hart, with the America First Committee. On May 22, 1941, a confidential informant advised that

This informant told off

(65-1461-72; b7D

It is to be noted that the September 30, 1941, issue of the "New Masses" contains a photograph of a letter from R. Douglas Stuart, Jr., on of America First letterhead stationery to Merwin K. Hart, President of the New York Economic Council, in which Stuart wrote that while he did not wish to openly associate his organization with that of Hart, he did think "it is imperative that we work together on these things." Stuart added, "I will let you know the name of the man who will be Chairman of our New York Chapter within a few days. I hope you will be able to work with him." Spivak pointed out that Hart is considered a prominent pro-Fascist who cooperated with Franco agents during the Spanish Civil War.

#### FOREIGN INFLUENCE

It is to be noted that the America First Committee has stated in its sponsored literature and statements for the press that it refuses to accept in its membership any persons connected with any foreign subversive groups such as the Nazis, Fascists, or Communists. However, many sources

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Memorandum for the  
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Page 11

have submitted information bearing upon the alleged connection between the Committee and various foreign subversive elements. No contention has been made to the knowledge of the Bureau that this Committee was connected in any way with any foreign elements at the time of its founding. ( [REDACTED] ) b7c b7D

Re:

b7c  
b7D  
On September 11, 1941, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was questioned concerning German propaganda activities in this country. [REDACTED] stated that he believed the leading propaganda organization was the America First Committee which worked in direct accord with the German ideas. He stated that this Committee was at that time the only effective propaganda agency in the United States and advised that the chief problem of the German Government was to keep the Committee advised of all available propaganda. How this was accomplished he did not state. [REDACTED] also explained that the German-American Board of Trade has succeeded the German Library of Information as the official German propaganda instrumentality. It is to be noted that it was reported on March 9, 1941, that a lecturer for the America First Committee named Harry Elmer Barnes, one of the editorial sponsors of "Uncensored", was said to have written to [REDACTED] urging him to publish the German White Book's attack on former Ambassador, William Bullitt.

(65-6225-306, [REDACTED] 61-7632-415, interview with SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of NY Field Division; 100-4712-171, [REDACTED])

On June 16, 1941, a confidential informant advised the Bureau that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (100-4712-711, [REDACTED])

The July monthly report of the Second Corps Area of the Military Intelligence Division alleged that the mailing list of the German Library

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Memorandum for the  
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of information had been turned over to the America First Committee. The New York Herald Tribune of July 26, 1941, carried an article which related that Hurton Millamy, a writer residing at Reading, Massachusetts, had made public two envelopes received by him which bore identical misspellings of his name and the same post office box numbers. One contained propaganda received from the America First Committee while the other, which had been received some months previous, contained literature from the German Library of Information. When questioned concerning this coincidence, a spokesman for the America First Committee declared that the misspelled name had been sent to the Committee by a private individual in February and that it would require an extensive search through the Committee's files to determine the name of this individual. A resident of [redacted] called the Bureau's attention on November 11, 1941, to a similar incident which involved the same misspelling of his middle initial. (61-7557-242; 100-4712-A, July 26, 1941; 100-52308-1, [redacted])

It is to be noted that the pro-Nazi publication, Deutscher Weckruf and Beobachter and Free American, has been carrying advertisements and has encouraged its readers to enroll with the America First Committee, as have two other German language newspapers in Bismarck, North Dakota, and San Francisco, California. On May 3, 1941, [redacted] California, told of having received in an envelope of the German-American National Alliance of Chicago, an alleged German propaganda agency, a circular entitled "Peace for America" which contained an appeal for contributions for the America First Committee. (61-6566-2621, [redacted] 102-2-27-1)

The Bureau's attention has recently been called to a pamphlet entitled "The America First Committee - The Nazi Transmission Belt" which has been published by the Friends of Democracy, Incorporated, whose National Director, L. M. Birkhead, is said to be sponsoring this organization for the purpose of counteracting anti-Semitic propaganda. (100-12412-A)

This pamphlet quotes from Senator Wheeler's speech of March 3, 1941, as follows:

"Now we find these same international bankers with their friends the royal refugees and with the Sassoons of the Orient and with the Rothschilds and Warburgs of Europe in another theme song... 'Our investments in India, Africa, and Europe must be preserved. Save democracy!'"

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Memorandum for the  
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and from Senator Rye's speech to the Senate on March 4, 1941:

"The greatest aggressor in all modern history has been the British Empire...The Empire is the despotic, arbitrary and sometimes tyrannical rule over almost half a billion people...It is this Empire that is calling us in the name of democracy."

These two remarks are paralleled to similar language used by Hitler. This publication also points out that the German-American National Alliance of Chicago in its literature calls upon its members to work through the America First Committee. The charge is also made that John B. Snow of New York City, allegedly a former distributor of "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion" which set forth an elaborate Jewish formula for establishing Jewish world domination, has recently been distributing copies of the America First pamphlet entitled "Our Foreign Policy".

The Bureau has recently received a printed report dated October 10, 1941, prepared by the American Legion on the "Subversive Activities in the America First Committee in California." This report was said to have been prepared in view of the striking similarity between the Nazi propaganda technique and the America First methods of operation in California. The Legion pointed out that this matter was called to the attention of General E. E. Wood but that no action was taken on his part.

To establish its contention, the Legion report lists numerous "typical channels of subversive propaganda in California" which consist of certain German-American Bund groups and book stores located in the Los Angeles area, and points out how their propaganda compares with that of the America First Committee. It then names several individuals who have been publicly connected with various German propaganda movements and who have recently been associated with the America First Committee activities. The Legion concludes that "there is every indication that they have joined the America First movement for the express purpose of presenting their subversive propaganda to those sincere isolationists who have been attracted to America First."

(Attached to cover letter from L.M.C. Smith, dated November 22, 1941)

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[REDACTED], reported that the automobile of Dr. George Gyseling, the German Consul, was seen parked in front of the office of the America First Committee on the day that its offices were opened in Los Angeles on January 16, 1941. b7c

With reference to the America First activities in Los Angeles, it was reported in February, 1941, that the Chairman of the Los Angeles branch was John L. Wheeler, son of Senator Wheeler. A confidential informant told of John Wheeler and his wife attending a party on February 4, 1941, at the home of Paul von Contard, [REDACTED], at which Mrs. Wheeler had allegedly remarked that "the only way we can be safe is to see the pins knocked out from under Britain." The informant pointed out that the Wheelers associated with several suspected espionage agents as a result of which Mrs. Wheeler had become inculcated with pro-German doctrines. Among those associates was one Hans Wolfram who was said to be connected with publicity activities in New York City and Washington, D. C., on behalf of the German Embassy. This informant further advised that Paul von Contard at this gathering displayed a \$2,000 cashier's check drawn on the St. Louis Trust Company, St. Louis, Missouri, which he turned over to John Wheeler as a contribution to the America First Committee. It is to be noted that Paul von Contard is said to be a brother of Adelbert von Contard, an official of the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Company in St. Louis. [REDACTED] b7c

(100-4712-X; ONE)

Information was also received from San Francisco which alleged that Dr. Hugh Parkinson, a member of the Board of Directors of the America First Committee in San Francisco, was said to frequently contact Fritz Weidemann, German Consul General. (66-2542-3-347-208) [REDACTED] b7c

San Francisco)

On May 6, 1941, a confidential source supplied a photostatic copy of a check drawn on the United States National Bank of Portland, Oregon, by the "German War Veterans, by [REDACTED] payable to the America First Committee. [REDACTED] was reported to be a German-American Bund member. (100-36444-1) b7c

(S-1)(C) The Philadelphia Ledger of April 22, 1941, carried an article reporting that Mrs. Edith Scott of Philadelphia declared that the National

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**Memorandum for the  
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**Page 11**

Legion of Mothers and Women of America, an affiliate of the America First Committee, had under consideration inviting women associated with the Ryffhauser Band into its membership. An informant pointed out that at a meeting of the America First Committee held in Philadelphia on May 26, 1941, there were several representatives of the German-American Central Band of Pennsylvania on the speakers' stand inside the arena, among whom were Gustav F. Nickel, President of the Philadelphia Section of that Band, and Leopold Syre. Also in attendance was a member of the German Consulate in Philadelphia. (100-4712-A; dated 4/22/41) (100-47)

A confidential informant on May 26, 1941, advised that Dr. Fleischman, a member of the America First Committee, had addressed a meeting of the United German Societies held at the New York Turn Hall. (61-9879-268, From Phila Field, unknown)

[REDACTED]

(65-8857-181)

On July 30, 1941, a confidential source made available a summary of information furnished by an informant who was said to be reliable. This informant alleged that the America First Committee had recently formed in New York City an "Investigation Unit", under the direction of one George Wrangell. Wrangell, who is alleged to be a White Russian and influential among the Russian emigres and French refugee groups, was said to be openly pro-German and pro-Nazi and has been connected with German Bund and German Government circles. This informant further stated that the Bundists are operating as volunteer workers in the dissemination of anti-interventionist literature published by the America First Committee. The "Investigation Unit" referred to above is said to be the creation of Mr. Benson Batchelor. This informant also mentioned the fact that the America First Committee has been operating with certain Bund agents in a campaign of contacting the parents

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Memorandum for the  
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**SECRET**

of draftees and enlistees with the view toward agitating against the national defense program and the extension of the period of military service. (100-4712-122) (G-2, Governor's Island, NY)

(S)(M) It is to be noted that another informant advised that Baron von Wrangell had been sent by the America First Committee to debate before a Man's Christian Forum in Bronxville, New York, on the subject "What Is the Christian Attitude Toward America's Entry Into the War?" This informant stated that the forum group was highly interested because of von Wrangell's position on the foreign issue. (61-10498-539; Letter from [redacted] Bronxville, New York)

(S)(M) Reference is also made to a report from the Military Intelligence Division dated September 26, 1941, which alleged that J. Guy Swannan, an active organizer for the America First Committee in the New York area and a former officer and recognized leader of the German-American Bund, was said to be enrolling Bund members in the Committee. In this connection, it is to be noted that the Office of Naval Intelligence in May, 1941, reported that the naturalized and native American members of the German-American Bund were instructed by Huns to join the America First Committee. (61-7474-49; G-2, 2nd Corps Area; 66-8463-1-34-33; Weekly

(S)(M) Natl. Defense Conference in NYC)

A confidential informant submitted unverified information to the effect that one of the outstanding writers on the staff of the America First Committee, [redacted] was said to be an "out and out Nazi." (100-4712-28; [redacted])

#### Communist

At the time of the Committee's founding, there was no indication of any Communist influence. Soon after the America First Committee was organized, members William J. Grace, Avery Brundage, and W. H. Hagnery, severed their relations with the America First Committee allegedly because they disapproved of any connection whatsoever with any members of the Committee who might be designated as "pink" in their belief. John Spivak (100-4712-10, p. 2)

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Memorandum for the  
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Page 24

alleged that Brundage and McNary left because their well-known opposition would reflect unfavorably upon the Committee. It is to be noted that shortly thereafter, Oswald Garrison Villard, former editor of the "Nation", left the America First Committee, publicly stating that he did so because he disagreed with the Committee's approval of the administration's rearmament program. Another well-known liberal and member of the Civil Liberties Union, Dr. Anton Julius Carlson was a member of the America First Committee. (New Masses 9/30/41; 100-4712-20, p. 4)

[REDACTED]

Information was received from an unknown source in May, 1941, which alleged that John Wheeler, Chairman of the Los Angeles Chapter, supported [REDACTED] in the 1940 California primaries. [REDACTED] is said to be notorious for his association with the Communist Party members of the West Coast. (100-4712-17X, unknown outside source)

It is to be noted that in May the Military Intelligence Division reported the Communists were said to consider the America First Committee a dangerous movement launched by "big-open-shop industrialists", and the Political Bureau of the Communist Party was said to have expressed the belief that should the United States enter the war, the Committee will definitely come out in support of it. (61-7599-11557, 8-2)

[REDACTED]

(100-18264-54;)

309  
**SECRET**



Memorandum for the  
Attorney General

Page 2 225-2

The Communist present position with regard to the America First Committee is reflected by the "New Masses" recent attack on the Committee and the fact that a derogatory report has recently been circulated by the Communist Party. This latter report which was said to have been prepared by a district secretary of the Communist Party has come to the Bureau's attention through sources in various sections of the country. It contains inconsistent information and appears to be unreliable. b7D

(100-472-137)

Fascist

In addition to the American fascistic organizations previously referred to in this memorandum, there has been some indication that foreign fascist influence has been exerted on the America First Committee.

[REDACTED] b1  
[REDACTED] (C) (100-472-12)  
anonymous communication read at Washington Field Office)

The Bureau's attention has been called to the fact that in the City of San Francisco, there are two separate chapters of the America First Committee which have been established in the Italian sections. This source failed to connect the Italian Consul in any way with these chapters, however. (100-26255-2)

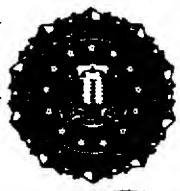
Reference is also made to the publication "The America First Committee - A Nazi Transmission Belt" which quoted from the Chicago Daily News' Rome correspondent who indicated that the Italian Propaganda Ministry, through the Fascist spokesman, [REDACTED] has referred favorably to the America First Committee in the Italian Press. (62-53618916) b7C

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



JOHN E. HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

December 4, 1941

b7c

MEMORANDUM FOR [REDACTED]

- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

There is submitted herewith for your use a copy of a summary memorandum on the America First Committee which has been prepared for the Attorney General.

Respectfully,

*[Signature]*  
D. M. Ladd

Attachment

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/14/86 BY SP8BTJ/CAL

ENCLOSURE 18

ENCLOSURE BEHIND RECORDED & INDEXED  
APR 1 1942

100-4712-30  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
18 MAR 19 1942  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

X 25A  
March 14, 1942  
American Federation of Investors, Inc.  
Hugh S. Magill, President  
35 East Wacker Drive  
Chicago, Illinois

Gentlemen:

I do not care so much fight now about "Saving Our American System" for use later on. That will return in due time. We must save America and our own hides right now. The "American System" is gone for good and all time if we are enslaved by the self-proclaimed "superior" blonde and brown Nazi and Jap, and "profits as usual" must await the chance of our final victory. Hence, the American Federation of Investors does not appeal to me. It should be suppressed for the duration. Capitalism and all labor freedoms and liberties must be subordinated now and for some time to come to insure more urgent and continuing war production and ultimate victory. We must fight the devil with fire and his own tools of war to win.

Sincerely yours,  
[Redacted Signature]

CO to:

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington D.C.

DEPT OF JUSTICE  
RECEIVED

10-16-90  
SP3675100

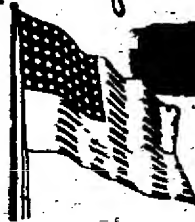
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INDEXED 4712-310  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

11 MAR 20 1942  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

8 MAR 24 1942

A shot at the enemies within our gates.



### THE AMERICA FIRSTER

(Dedicated to those it hits)

I was an America Firster until the questionable cult disbanded,  
I was sired by both Wheeler and Lindbergh, born in unholy wedlock,  
And damned by every sensible and patriotic American.  
I waved the flag and preached isolationism with a world in flames,  
I cursed the President and praised the Jap as our best customer,  
I slurred the English, and urged a negotiated peace with Hitler,  
I proclaimed the World War to be but a foreign conflict,  
And contended America could isolate itself from all mankind.  
I was not always exactly as dumb as I looked,  
There were times when I doubted our ostrich demagogues and stooges,  
And even thought the organization smelled somewhat of the fifth column;  
Yet I carried on with the rest of the debaters,  
Indulging in cheap talk and adolescent argument,  
Advertising national unpreparedness, under the guise of free speech,  
Retarding our nation's defense and encouraging our enemies,  
Until the Axis pulled the oft-threatened string,  
Whereby the treacherous Jap murdered American boys,  
And our Country was attacked, unprepared, but no longer isolated.  
I often wonder why I did these things when I knew better,  
Why I told Hitler that our boys were on the way to Iceland,  
Why I called our President a war-monger and scoffed at invasion,  
Mouthing platitudes about "war hysteria" and "minding our own business",  
And did all the dirty and contemptible things born of cheap politics.  
I cannot blame others for questioning my patriotism and loyalty,  
The dividing line between ignorance and disloyalty is often dim,  
I know that my record and the history of our times is against me.  
My hands are not very clean, and I don't feel so talkative today.  
But I thank God that at long last I am just an American,  
That I want to be only an American, first, last and all the time,  
And one who wishes to atone for his dumbness and his unenviable record,  
By serving humanity in an inhuman world of hate and treachery,  
And by trusting God hereafter, instead of fools.

100-4712-310

New York

October 11

FIFTH COLUMN ACTIVITIES IN USA

<sup>0</sup>  
The America First Committee has been able to jump the hurdles relative to the internal differences in connection with the attack made on the Jews. A large number of new recruits to the National Committee have been secured and now we find that a great many other groups are doing everything they possibly can to foster the America First and make it a success. Among these groups are: Christian Front, Christian Mobilizers, American Destiny Party, Paul Revere's Sentinels, A.V.I.F., German-American Bund, Women Determined, National Workers League--Detroit, Ku Klux Klan, Committee of One Million, G. Allison Phelps Group--Los Angeles, Pelley's Silver Shirts, and many other smaller groups.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/1/91 BY SP-6 bjt/ky

10-16-90  
Sg8875106

RECORDED

100-4712-311  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
MAR 25 1942  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

September 23, 1941

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE -- CHICAGO

Up until now this committee has repeatedly refused to divulge any information about its source of funds or size of contributions.

Now a new angle has come up that forces the organization to open its books.

It seems that recently there was a Congressional election in the first Wisconsin district, where the Wisconsin branch of America First opposed Mr. Amle for election.

State Attorney-General John E. Martin of Wisconsin has announced his intention to order the chapter to file an official report on its expenditures in the contest.

In this particular district, the American first organization backed Lawrence H. Smith, who was successful and the Wisconsin law requires all organizations participating in political campaign to file a detailed expense account. So far the Committee has refused, but time will tell in regards to this matter.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/12/86 BY SP6 bja/tey

10-16-90  
SP8 BTJ/COL

RECORDED & INDEXED

1 APR 30 1942

100-4712-312
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
19 MAR 24 1942
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

OCT 22 1941

FIFTH COLUMN ACTIVITIES IN THE U. S.

10-16-90

SP8BTS/col

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-12-86 BY SP4 bja/ky

b7c

## American Federation of Investors

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CHARLES A. SEGNER ..... *Vice President*  
EDITH P. REA ..... *Secretary*  
J. DeFOREST RICHARDS ..... *Treasurer*

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*Vice President CONTINENTAL CASUALTY Co., Chicago.*

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EDWARD L. RYERSON  
*Chairman of Board INLAND STEEL COMPANY, Chicago.*

CHARLES A. SEGNER  
*Editor, Chicago.*

JOHN STUART  
*President QUAKER OATS COMPANY, Chicago.*

CHESTER D. TRIPP  
*Consulting Engineer, Chicago.*

Washington Representative  
ELLEN W. MEYER  
1003 National Press Building, Washington, D. C.

"Keep it Ringing"



## Save Our American System

☆☆☆

### A Warning

**To Investors, Policyholders,  
Executives of Private Enterprise,  
and All Clear-Thinking, Liberty-  
Loving Americans:**

The socialization of private enterprise under political control and bureaucratic domination as an established policy means the ultimate destruction of free government in America.

☆

American Federation of Investors, Inc.  
(Nonpartisan and Not for Profit)

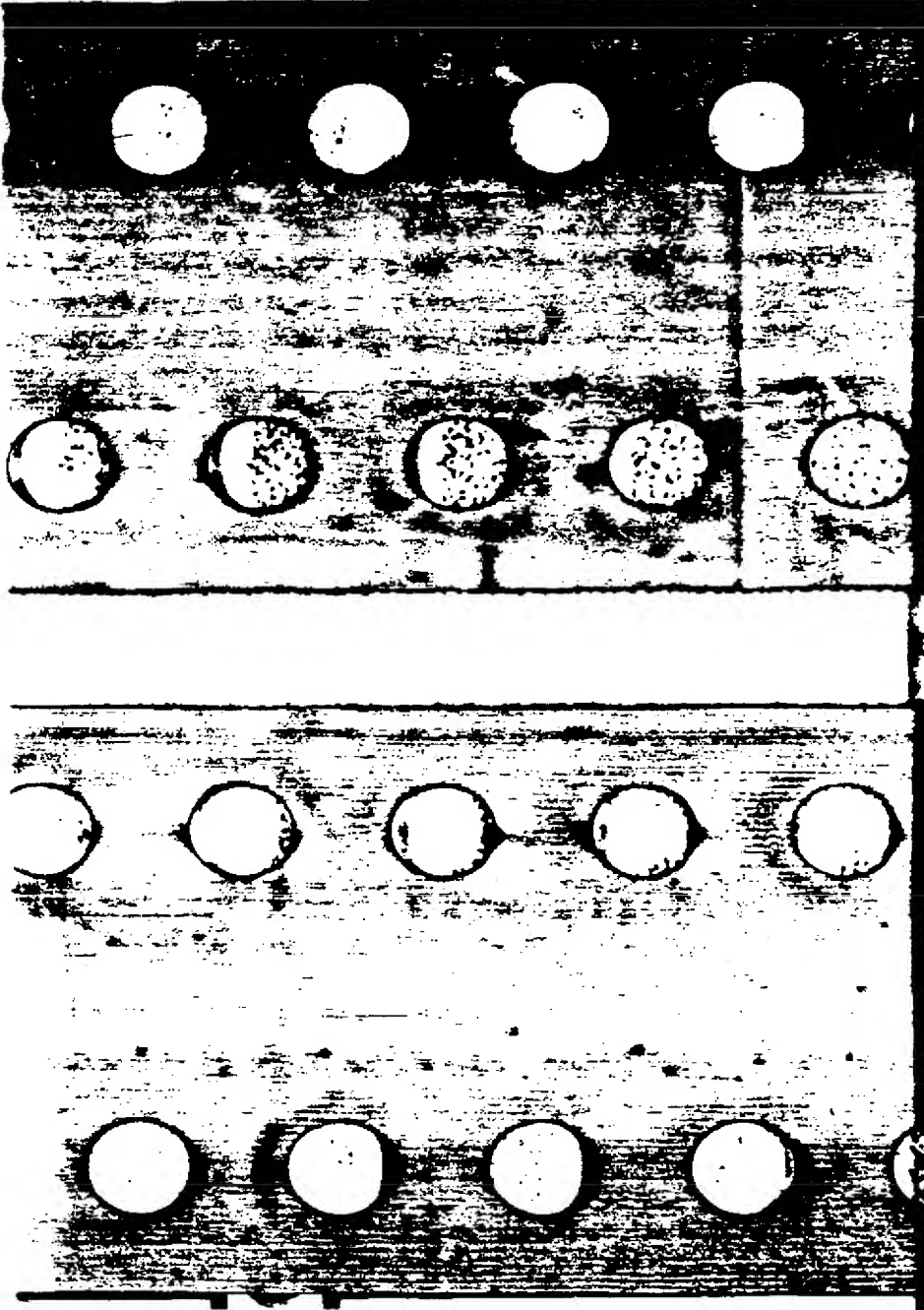
HUGH S. MAGILL, President  
35 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3-12-86 BY SP8 BTJ/ccl





## Dangers Without and Within

**WE** GIVE wholehearted support to our country in this war against the aggressor nations, and in defense of our own free institutions founded on liberty, equality, and justice, so dear to every American heart.

TO MAKE VICTORY more certain we submit willingly, for the duration of this war, to delegated authority arbitrarily administered, and give up, without complaint, rights and liberties that in times of peace distinguish free government from dictatorship.

BUT WAR, even when most justified for national defense and for the protection of our homes and our free institutions, brings with it conditions that we all regret. Among the most objectionable of these, even if unavoidable, is the very pronounced trend towards dictatorship and the break-down of free representative government.

THERE ARE other regrettable conditions that follow in war's trail which can be remedied only by good citizens uniting to overcome them. Among these is the reckless waste of the people's money in unnecessary, non-defense expenditures. Greedy political jobholders are opposing every effort to curtail such extravagance. A highly respected college president, who recently demanded of Congress a saving in non-defense expenditures of two billion dollars, has been denounced by a socialistic government jobholder as "A ring-leader in this economy drive."

EVEN IN defense expenditures we see revealed the sordid greed of "war contract brokers," tolerated and sometimes abetted by officials high in authority, under the pretense of promoting our country's welfare. Honest, tax-paying citizens, who are sacrificing at home and giving their sons to die for our country, should, in righteous

take **Q**ur the telephone and telegraph systems during the war, which passed both Houses of Congress, that if our telephone and telegraph systems are taken over by the government under the provisions of this act they may never be returned to private ownership and operation.

WE MUST WIN this war at whatever cost. But what will it profit us if while winning it we lose those elements of our own American System which have contributed most to the freedom, prosperity, and happiness of our people from the founding of our nation down to the present time? If we permit free private enterprise to be swallowed up by government ownership and political management, free representative government will be lost.

THIS "Battle on the Home Front" can be won only by the cooperation of millions of right-thinking, tax-paying citizens. We must awaken all thoughtful Americans to the serious dangers mentioned above. Nor can we ignore the impending threat of inflation which would wreck our entire financial system, destroy the purchasing power of the dollar, and bring ruin to millions of American homes.

EVERY PERSON who has savings of any kind, including life insurance, investments, or other property, can well afford to contribute to the organized efforts of our Federation one dollar, five dollars, or possibly ten dollars or more, for his own protection and to help save private ownership of industry and property from threatened socialization.

LET US ACT NOW with earnestness and enthusiasm in combating conditions that are detrimental to our country and to the winning of this war, and be prepared when this terrible world conflict is over to demand the re-establishment of our American System as the only adequate recompense for our sacrifices and the staggering costs of victory.

*Hugh S. Hazill*  
PRESIDENT

## THE PURPOSE

of

American Federation of Investors, Inc.

To uphold through organized effort our American System of free representative government and free private enterprise, and to safeguard the rights of investors in private enterprise, including security owners, life insurance policyholders, savings bank depositors, and all owners of private property.

I wish to cooperate in the Federation for the protection of my own interests and in support of the principles for which the Federation stands.

### Classification of Members

- ☐ COOPERATING MEMBERS, \$1 A YEAR
- ☐ CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS, \$5 A YEAR
- ☐ SUSTAINING MEMBERS, \$10 OR MORE A YEAR

I enclose \$\_\_\_\_\_ covering my dues for one year. I assume no further obligation.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

{ Twenty-five cents of each contribution  
is for an annual subscription to IN-  
VESTORS IN PRIVATE ENTERPRISE }

FILL OUT AND MAIL TO  
American Federation of Investors, Inc.  
35 East Wacker Drive • Chicago

wrath, demand the complete suppression of such scandalous thievery.

✓ ONE OF THE most dangerous and far-reaching conditions now developing is the stifling of individual freedom of action, and government control of all private industry. Thrifty, substantial citizens, engaged in small business and manufacturing enterprises, are even now finding it difficult to survive. This trend is definitely in the direction of National Socialism, the very system which Hitler declares he is fighting to establish throughout the world.

THIS SITUATION is fraught with grave danger because so many public officials, in positions of influence and authority, would make the socialization of private industry permanent. Whatever may be their motives, their efforts promote the extension and centralization of governmental authority, and the complete domination and ultimate destruction of all private enterprise and private ownership of industry and property.

LOOKING INTO the future, we feel confident that our country will emerge victorious from this great world conflict, but with private enterprise and all our free institutions completely subservient to administrative authority, established under war conditions. Such authority once granted is not readily given up. Those who have enjoyed such powers will fight to retain them. The vast throng of political jobholders and bureaucrats will cling to their jobs, supported by their political sponsors.

THIS SERIOUS THREAT to our American System is recognized by many industrial executives and prominent statesmen. Mr. Alfred P. Sloan, in an address delivered in Boston in January, declared that the problems of the post-war period will be even more difficult than those of winning the war, and that the longer the war lasts the more difficult will be the problem of getting back to our American system of free private enterprise.

SENATOR ROBERT A. TAFT predicted, during the debate in the United States Senate on the bill authorizing the President to

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**

JRR/EAB

305 Realty Building  
Savannah, Georgia  
March 23, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Re: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter of March 16, 1942.

A review of the files of the Savannah Field Division indicate that the America First Committee has not been active in the Savannah territory.

As a result, this case is being referred upon completion at this time to the office of origin at Chicago. The Agents of this division have been instructed to be on the alert to obtain information concerning the America First Committee along the lines of Bureau letter of March 16, 1942.

Very truly yours,

10-16-90  
5985316L  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/12/86 BY SP2 bjt/ky

R. RUGGLES  
Special Agent in Charge

cc: Chicago

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100-4712-313
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 MAR 25 1942
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

7 MAR 30 1942

67C  
EX-8

AMERICA FIRST INC. AFFAIRS

To say that the international affairs of this organization were in a turmoil would be putting it mildly.

In The Chicago area the "Fight for Freedom Committee" has set up a pretty fine organization to fight America First. On one side we find Colonel McCormick of the Chicago Tribune, Harry Jang, and the Dilling woman, and on the other side is Professor Albert Parry. The point is that the America First Committee is endeavoring to smear the Fight for Freedom group as being Communist. This has caused the America First group to search everywhere for any sort of evidence that they can find to be-

little Parry and his cohorts.

\*\*\*

In the New York area the situation is terrible simply because Lindbergh, and Senator Nye, have started their open attack on the Jews. All of the Jewish money that was forthcoming to the America First has practically stopped and the suspicion is that about the only funds they are getting in from some big source possibly comes from Colonel Pew, the executive head of the Sun Oil Company.

It is understood that John T. Flynn, the New York leader among the Catholics and the America First, has served an ultimatum on the New York committee that if Lindbergh does not resign he will then resign the New York chapter chairmanship. Norman Thomas, is reported to have given the National Committee two weeks for Lindbergh to resign or he will stop his talking

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DATE 3/2/86 BY SP8 BTJ/CS

6/24/87 SP8 BTJ/TBS #49,182

INDEXED

100-4712-314

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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tour for the committee. Every Jewish group in New York from the very lowest has received instructions to "crack down" on America First, and this is going to cause a repercussion that may do more harm to the Lindbergh crowd than anything that has come up of late.

Dorothy Dunbar Bromley, the noted liberal writer, has resigned from the committee and now it appears as though Kathryn Lewis and Mrs. Burton K. Wheeler are really the whips of the organization. Flynn flew to Chicago and had a "rough-house show-down" with the National Committee last week, but as yet the committee has not changed its attitude in connection with Lindbergh.

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

CHICAGO

10-16-90

SP8BTS/CL

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DATE 3/12/16 BY *SP6 bja/ky*



RECORDED - 315

April 11, 1942

Special Agent in Charge  
Chicago, Illinois

Re: America First Committee,  
Internal Security - C.

10-16-90  
S 9875/60  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/21/84 BY [signature]

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter to all Special Agents in Charge dated March 16, 1942 in the above entitled matter.

Information has been received from an unknown outside source that the former America First Committee in the eastern part of the United States allegedly under the leadership of followers of Father Charles E. Coughlin is open to form a new organization. This organization reportedly will receive the approval of John L. Lewis. The comment is made that Lewis, head of the United Mine Workers—C.I.O. for the past few weeks, has been receiving praise from the followers of Father Coughlin.

It is alleged that reports out of the C.I.O. headquarters in Washington, D. C., indicate that the America First Committee has divided the United States into districts; revised all of its mailing lists, and has made arrangements with other groups who can be classified tentatively as pro-Nazi for an exchange of mailing lists. This arrangement is stated to now be in effect and the mailing lists are being carefully handled so that the matter will not be brought to the attention of the authorities and a subsequent investigation initiated.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_

The above material is being submitted for your information and assistance in complying with the request in Bureau letter and you should be especially alert to Communists within the America First Committee is making available its mailing list to other groups whose loyalty to this country may be subject to question.

★ APR 13 1942 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

CC - Detroit

AMERICA FIRST

New York, Dec. 30, 1941

We are more convinced than ever that the America First group in the east under the leadership of the Coughlin followers are soon to come out with a new outfit, and when they do they are going to receive the blessings of John L. Lewis on the quiet. Lewis had been receiving praise from the Coughlin following for the past five weeks, and this praise is being used in almost every section of the country. According to reports out of the CIO at Washington the group has carefully set up the country into districts; they have revised all of the mailing lists, and in addition they have made arrangements with other groups who can be classified as pro-Nazi for an exchange of a mailing list. This arrangement is now in effect, and many of these Pro-Nazi groups such as were contained in the letter we recently sent in are circularizing so-called patriots with the sale of literature, etc. These lists are not being carelessly handled because of the fear that some may demand it a government investigation of their activities, but out of Chicago we learned that America First and their co-called supporting groups now have a secret mailing list of eight million four hundred and seventy-six thousand names of people in this country. A vast number of this list, of course, are on the west coast, and lately a great many of the foreign speaking groups have been circularized and there is no doubt but what certain sections of names from the major list has been used in sending out this mail.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/14/86 BY SP8 BTJ/STC

10-16-90 SP8 BTJ/STC

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

b7c

AMERICA FIRST, INC.

New York, Jan. 14, 1942

10-16-40  
SP8BTJ/CAL  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 3/27/81 BY [signature]

The America First underground organization, under the leadership of Charles A. Lindbergh, is being formed. First evidence of this is two secret meetings at the homes of persons high in the America First organization.

In the middle of last month, on December 17th, more than 50 persons were present at 10 Beekman Place, home of an America First leader, reportedly that of Edwin A. Webster, Jr., former New York secretary of America First and Wall Street banker of Kidder, Peabody and Company, to hear Charles A. Lindbergh counsel the continuation of an America First type of organization. Another meeting, held a few days before in an apartment on lower Park Avenue, was sponsored by a woman who was one of the New York heads of Women United, America First auxiliary. It is understood that these are the first of a series of house parties which will keep alive America First contacts.

The meeting at the Beekman Place address was a dinner given for the members of the speakers' bureau of America First. Those present were the minor sub-leaders of the America First group, borough heads, district heads and leading speakers. Lindbergh was an "unexpected treat" for the assemblage. Although he had not come prepared to speak, according to the host, the ex-Colonel, who now has applied for readmittance into the U. S. air force, stood up and spoke for an hour. According to information received, the flyer made it clear that events in the Pacific had no effect on his previous charge that the Administration's policies had involved this country in a war. As far as the Pacific was concerned, Lindbergh said that Britain was responsible, and that the Japanese have joined with Germany in destroying the yellow danger and bolshevism. If such a move had been made, it would have put America and Britain in a better position to fight Japan.

RECORDED  
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MAR 28 1942  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Bruce Oliver, radio commentator for the Friends of Democracy, headed by Dr. L. M. Birkhead, speaking over the radio during the week that just passed, without mentioning Lindbergh's name or the home in which the meeting took place, charged that a "famous leader who now seeks a place within the U. S. Army, had said: 'America First should be on the alert to take advantage of the reactions which will come when the lists of missing and the dead and the wounded begin to appear, for it is then that the American people' -- of course he meant the American people who can be swayed by the fascist flag appeal -- 'will be made to understand how they have been betrayed by the British and the Administration'."

The meeting, held at the lower Park Avenue address, discussed the formation of a new organization with a more open anti-Semitic program than the America First Committee utilized. Present at the meeting were persons active in Women United, an America First auxiliary, and an editor of a small financial magazine who has spread the forged Protocols of Zion.

The propaganda tactics of the former appeasement group is made clear by Father Coughlin, and also by Merwin K. Hart, in whose offices have been hatched many pro-fascist groups. In a letter to the New York Times of January 6, Hart violently attacks the proposal of any union with the other democracies. This is in line with Coughlin's incitements against Britain, and the statement that we must think first of our defense only.

The Coordinating Committee for Democratic Action has revealed that appeasement propaganda in this country was spurred after the fall of France by a group which met shortly after the date in the office of Hart. Present at the meeting were William R. Castle, Hooton, under-secretary of state, former Senator Rush Holt, Father Galbot, editor of ~~the~~ and Charles Lindbergh. Today, Hart sounds the new "new" line.

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FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☒ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☒ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

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**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

445 Federal Building  
Little Rock, Arkansas  
March 26, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G

10-16-90  
SP8BTJ/COL  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/12/86 BY SP8BTJ/RBB

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated March 16, 1942, addressed to all Special Agents in Charge concerning the present activities of the American First Committee. On page 3 of this letter, it is noted that the Bureau has suggested that confidential informants be used wherever possible, and that possibly individuals who were formerly active in this Committee may be utilized in such capacity.

In this connection, Special Agent [redacted] now assigned to this office, has advised me as follows:

During the spring of 1941, Special Agent [redacted] and Special Agent [redacted] both of whom were then assigned to the Newark Field Division, were engaged in investigation in a case involving [redacted]. These individuals were names [redacted] and [redacted] - INTERNAL SECURITY - G. During this investigation, Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] contacted [redacted]

He became, so he said, a great supporter of the Bureau during the course of this investigation and related to Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] that he was very active during May of 1941 in the affairs of the American First Committee in the vicinity of New York City. [redacted]

He stated that he was somewhat of an isolationist, and a great admirer of CHARLES A. LINDBERGH, but that above everything else, he was a loyal citizen of the United States and would do anything in his power to

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XV

100-4712

16 MAR 30 1942

AMERICAN FIRST COMMITTEE

LR 100-555  
March 26, 1942

assist our government.

In view of the above statements by [REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] it is suggested that the Bureau may desire to review the file of this matter and advise the New York Field Division of this informant's identity in order that he may be considered for a possible source of information in the present inquiry being undertaken concerning the America First Committee.

Very truly yours,

*Fred Hallford*  
FRED HALLFORD  
Special Agent in Charge

[REDACTED]  
100-555 b7c



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET**

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## Section 552

**Section 552a**

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March 16, 1942

100-4712-320

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER  
TOLSON  
TAMM, E. A.  
CLEGG  
GLAVIN  
LADD  
NICHOLS  
ROSEN  
TRACY  
ALDEN  
CARSON

COFFEY  
CUNNINGHAM  
EGAN  
FITCH  
HARBO  
HENDON  
HINCE  
HOLLOMAN  
KIMBALL  
KRAMER  
LAUGHLIN, R. H.

MCGUIRE  
NEASE  
PATTERSON  
FERRINGTON  
KENNEBERGER  
SKOUSEN  
STRICKLAND  
TAMM, Q.  
TIMM  
TRAYNOR  
AND SUPERVISORS

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Declassify on: OADR 9/10/94  
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OTHERWISE

DECLASSIFIED BY 8123 mch/afy  
ON 8/14/91  
Per Army letter  
dated 5/29/91

RE: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G

5/15/96  
Classified by SP6 b  
Declassify on: OADR  
SP8B/Col  
10-16-90

Dear Sir:

For the immediate investigative attention of all offices,  
there are attached hereto copies of a summary memorandum prepared by  
the Bureau, dated February 13, 1942, regarding the America First  
Committee.

In addition to the information set forth therein, reports  
have recently been received indicating that members of the America  
First Committee entertain the hope that the Committee may again become  
a political force; that they are biding their time in contemplation of  
this eventuality, despite the fact that the organization ostensibly  
concluded its activities following the entrance of the United States  
into the war. It has been reported that the Committee has gone under-  
ground under the leadership of Charles A. Lindbergh.

With regard to Lindbergh, information was received from the  
Military Intelligence Division, Washington, D. C., that on December 17,  
1941, he addressed a dinner meeting of individuals who had been asso-  
ciated with the America First Committee, assembled at the home of  
Edward S. Webster, Jr., 35 Beekman Street, New York City. Webster was  
the New York Secretary of the America First Committee.

On this occasion Lindbergh is reported to have stated that  
for years America has been speaking of the "Yellow Peril," yet we are  
now fighting on the side of the Russians and Chinese. He is stated  
to have appeared discouraged with the United States Government on  
account of the fact that, in his opinion, it has no plan nor does it

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FORM # 100-4712-320  
APPAL #  
CIVILACT. #  
E.O. #  
RECEIVED INITIALS  
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COMMUNICATION

M A I

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

6-10-90

know for what it is fighting

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(S-1)(C) With further regard to the remarks made by Lindbergh on December 17, 1941, it was stated that he remarked there is only one danger in the world, namely, the yellow danger; that China and Japan in reality are allied against the white race; and that Germany itself could have been used as a weapon against this alliance. He is reported to have said that the ideal program would have included Germany's taking over Russia and Poland, in collaboration with the British, as a bloc against the yellow race and Bolshevism but that "the British and the fools in Washington had to interfere." Further, he is stated to have said that the British envied the Germans and wanted to rule the world; that Britain is the real cause of all the trouble in the world today. (S-1)(C)

Lindbergh is reported to have pointed out that the America First Committee cannot, of course, be active now but that it should be on the alert for the time when the American people, by reason of the lists of the missing and statements of war losses, realize that they have been betrayed by the British and the Administration. He is indicated to have stated that then the America First Committee can again become a political force; that it must remain quiet for a while and await the time when the Committee can advocate a negotiated peace. (S-1)(C)

Further, it has been reported that a series of house parties are to keep alive contacts of the America First Committee and that the backbone of the Committee, particularly in the East under the leadership of the followers of Reverend Charles E. Coughlin, is soon to come out with a new organization.

Numerous other reports from unverified sources have indicated that the America First Committee, at least in some sections of the country, intends to continue operation or maintain such contact that will permit its open activities at some time in the future. The known national leaders of the America First Committee have officially announced the disbanding of the organization, and it is evident that certain groups and individuals who apparently intend to continue the activities of the America First Committee are doing so without the knowledge or consent of the former national organization. These individuals are apparently taking advantage of the organization already established to retain a nuclei which may later possibly be used in a way detrimental to the present war effort. It is this particular situation that should be the subject of investigation in each field office district.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Definite efforts should be made to determine whether the America First Committee is possibly being kept alive and in operation by individuals and groups who may plan at some time in the future using the organization in a manner detrimental to the internal security of this country. The investigation along these lines should be immediately initiated following a review of the files in your office for background information and should be made in a discreet manner so as to cause no undue publicity.

It is suggested that confidential informants be used where possible and in some instances the cooperation of sincere isolationists, who formerly were active in this Committee and who now realize the necessity for an all out national defense, may possibly be utilized. Approaches to persons who were formerly connected with the America First Committee should be very discreet and should only be made after it has reasonably been ascertained that they are not a part of the underground organization now functioning. To follow any other line of procedure would be fatal to an effective investigation along the lines set out hereinbefore.

The primary purpose of the inquiries at this time is to ascertain whether the structure set up by the America First Committee is now being used by foreign interests, or by individuals cooperating with foreign interests, in such a manner as to interfere with the national defense effort.

As the Bureau comes into the possession of information of interest to the individual field offices, it will be transmitted to the interested office for attention.

It is my desire that this case be placed in a preferential investigative status, in view of the fact that the Attorney General has approved this inquiry and will be interested in any pertinent information along the lines suggested.

The Chicago Field Division is to be considered the office of origin in all reports, in view of the fact that the national headquarters of the America First Committee before disbanding was located in that city.

The Bureau should be kept advised of any significant developments indicating that the America First Committee is operating as an underground organization inimical to this country.

Very truly yours,

*J. E. Hoover*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ John Edgar Hoover

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☐ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☐ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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24 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): Duplicate of document located at 100-4712-284

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100-4712-320 enclosure

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210-4712-320

CONFIDENTIAL

March 16, 1942

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CHARLOTTE  
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SEATTLE  
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WASHINGTON, D. C.  
QUANTICO

Deleted Copy Sent  
by letter 3-18-42

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

COPIES DESTROYED 3/31/42

RE: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE - INTERNAL SECURITY - G ON 3/16/42

Dear Sir:  
10-16-90

For the immediate investigative attention of all offices, there are attached hereto copies of a summary memorandum prepared by the Bureau, dated February 13, 1942, regarding the America First Committee.

In addition to the information set forth therein, reports have recently been received indicating that members of the America First Committee entertain the hope that the Committee may again become a political force; that they are biding their time in contemplation of this eventuality, despite the fact that the organization ostensibly concluded its activities following the entrance of the United States into the war. It has been reported that the Committee has gone underground under the leadership of Charles A. Lindbergh.

With regard to Lindbergh, information was received from the Military Intelligence Division, Washington, D. C., that on December 17, 1941, he attended a dinner meeting of individuals who had been associated with the America First Committee, assembled at the home of Edwin B. Webster, Jr., 35 Beekman Street, New York City. Webster was Vice New York Secretary of the America First Committee.

On this occasion Lindbergh is reported to have stated that America has been speaking of the "Yellow Peril," yet we are now fighting on the side of the Russians and Chinese. He is stated to have appeared discouraged with the United States Government on account of the fact that, in his opinion, it has no plan nor does

CONFIDENTIAL

225  
know for what it is fighting

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

With further regard to the remarks made by Lindbergh on December 17, 1941, it was stated that he remarked there is only one danger in the world, namely, the yellow danger; that China and Japan in reality are allied against the white race; and that Germany itself would have been used as a weapon against this alliance. He is reported to have said that the ideal program would have included Germany's taking over Russia and Poland, in collaboration with the British, as a bloc against the yellow race and Bolshevism but that "the British and the fools in Washington had to interfere." Further, he is stated to have said that the British envied the Germans and wanted to rule the world; that Britain is the real cause of all the trouble in the world today. (S-1)(C)

Lindbergh is reported to have pointed out that the America First Committee cannot, of course, be active now but that it should be on the alert for the time when the American people, by reason of the lists of the missing and statements of war losses, realize that they have been betrayed by the British and the Administration. He is indicated to have stated that then the America First Committee can again become a political force; that it must remain quiet for a while and await the time when the Committee can advocate a negotiated peace. (S-1)(C)

[REDACTED]

b7D

Further, it has been reported that a series of house parties are to keep alive contacts of the America First Committee and that the backbone of the Committee, particularly in the East under the leadership of the followers of Reverend Charles E. Coughlin, is soon to come out with a new organization.

Numerous other reports from unverified sources have indicated that the America First Committee, at least in some sections of the country, intends to continue operation or maintain such contact that will permit its open activities at some time in the future. The known national leaders of the America First Committee have officially announced the disbanding of the organization, and it is evident that certain groups and individuals who apparently intend to continue the activities of the America First Committee are doing so without the knowledge or consent of the former national organization. These individuals are apparently taking advantage of the organization already established to retain a nucleus which may later possibly be used in a way detrimental to the present war effort. It is this particular situation that should be the subject of investigation in each field office district.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



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- 3 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Definite efforts should be made to determine whether the America First Committee is possibly being kept alive and in operation by individuals and groups who may plan at some time in the future using the organization in a manner detrimental to the internal security of this country. The investigation along these lines should be immediately initiated following a review of the files in your office for background information, and should be made in a discreet manner so as to cause no undue publicity.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

It is suggested that confidential informants be used where possible and in some instances the cooperation of sincere isolationists, who formerly were active in this Committee and who now realize the necessity for an all out national defense, may possibly be utilized. Approaches to persons who were formerly connected with the America First Committee should be very discreet and should only be made after it has reasonably been ascertained that they are not a part of the underground organization now functioning. To follow any other line of procedure would be fatal to an effective investigation along the lines set out hereinbefore.

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It is my desire that this case be placed in a preferential investigative status, in view of the fact that the Attorney General has approved this inquiry and will be interested in any pertinent information along the lines suggested.

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The Bureau should be kept advised of any significant developments indicating that the America First Committee is operating as an underground organization inimical to this country.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PHILADELPHIA, PA.**

FILE NO. **100-2651**

REPORT MADE AT <b>PHILADELPHIA, PA.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4/1/42</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10/31/41 - 3/24/42</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>
TITLE <b>AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY (R) G</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

File review reflects America First Committee dissolved and [REDACTED]

*R 10-16-90 SP8BJS/col*  
 INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE *7/17/86* BY *SP6 bje/leg*

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated 10/23/41 at Philadelphia  
 Letter to Bureau from the Philadelphia Field Division dated 2/23/42.

DETAILS: Under date of September 30, 1941, a report was submitted to the Philadelphia Field Office concerning [REDACTED]

COPIES DESTROYED *3/2/42*  
*R-41*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>J. J. Sears</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>100-4712-321</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT: 5 Bureau, 3 Philadelphia		<b>APR 4 1942</b>
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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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### Section 552

### Section 552a

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FILE NO. 100-2651

members of the America First Committee.

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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PHILADELPHIA, Pa. FILE NO. 65-624

b7D

The Philadelphia indices reflect that [REDACTED] Philadelphia, Pa., is presently the subject of an espionage investigation under Philadelphia File No. 65-624. Information is reflected in this file that [REDACTED] was formerly the [REDACTED] and that during the time that the German Consulate was opened in Philadelphia that [REDACTED] maintained the highest degree of friendship with [REDACTED] the German Consul and his assistant respectively.

b7C

The Philadelphia indices of the Philadelphia Office reflect that [REDACTED] is the subject of an espionage investigation under Philadelphia File No. 65-1111; and that, subsequent to the time that the United States went to war with Japan, [REDACTED] was apprehended and interned as an undesirable alien. [REDACTED] was a member of the following German clubs in Philadelphia and vicinity: [REDACTED]

The name of [REDACTED] appears as the subject of an espionage investigation in the Philadelphia Field Division under File No. 65-1145. He is reported to be extremely pro-Nazi and in sympathy with the present movement of Hitler being conducted in Europe.

[REDACTED] is presently the subject of investigation in the Philadelphia Office under File No. 61-126 entitled "Mothers and Daughters of Pennsylvania". She was recently subpoenaed by the Dies Committee to appear before a Congressional hearing in Washington, D. C. She is reported to anti-Communist and anti-Nazi.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

FILE NO. 100-2651

The name of [redacted] is reported to associate with [redacted] and to assist the latter in distribution of Nazi literature and propaganda in Philadelphia.

The name of [redacted] is reported to associate with [redacted] and to assist the latter in distribution of Nazi literature and propaganda in Philadelphia.

b7c The name of [redacted] appears in Philadelphia File No. 100-2651, in which he is the subject of an "Internal Security (G)" investigation of the Philadelphia Office. According to information contained in this file, he is [redacted]. He is also mentioned in numerous other files of the Philadelphia Field Office.

The name of [redacted] appears in Philadelphia File No. 100-2651, in which he is the subject of an "Internal Security (G)" investigation presently being conducted by this office. This file reflects that he is a German sympathizer and is apparently receiving German literature mailed from Philadelphia, and that his name also appears on [redacted].

b7c Special Agent [redacted] found in his personally-owned automobile on 10/31/41 a piece of literature entitled "People of America", which is quoted as follows:

"Today we stand at a momentous cross-road of world history. As the armies of the Nazi gangsters sweep nearer and nearer to America, the necessity for united and tremendous effort becomes clearer. Yet, at this very time, a small group of native fascists have launched a campaign to divide and confuse the American people. Their purpose is obvious--they want Hitler to win. But their methods are subtle. They cry peace but they want war--against the American people instead of Hitler. Their game is to persuade Americans to aid Hitler, by allowing him to cut off his enemies one by one.

"John L. Spivak, America's ace reporter and investigator of subversive activities, has written a startling expose of these fascist sympathizers. They hide behind the patriotic slogan of 'America First,' but their activities are directed against America and toward making Germany first!

"The evidence shows that 'America First' is controlled by seven wealthy industrialists and financiers who are known to be pro-Fascist and anti-Labor. The atmosphere of the national office is one of secrecy and conspiratorial plotting. The organization works with notorious fascists like Merwin K. Hart and Harry Jung. They have collected over \$1,000,000 and refuse to deny that a large part of it has come thru Nazi channels. Notorious anti-Semites are its official



PHILADELPHIA, PA. FILE NO. 100-2651

speakers. Henry Ford's private office files and catalogues Lindbergh's mail and keeps lists of prospects. The owners of Scribner's Commentator, their official magazine, are pro-Fascists whose dealings with Nazi emissaries have been exposed.

"This is 'America First.' Nazis and anti-Semites run it, subsidize it, speak for it, write for it. Gauleiter Lindbergh of the Nazi medal is its official spokesman. Senators Wheeler, Clark, and Nye are its Washington agents. And YOU AMERICANS are expected to be their dupes—tools of this Nazi gang!"

"READ THE 'NEW MASSES' FOR THE COMPLETE EXPOSE INCLUDING PHOTOSTATS OF THE DOCUMENTS!"

"WIRE YOUR CONGRESSMAN TO INVESTIGATE THIS FASCIST OUTFIT!" "OUST THE APPEARERS FROM OFFICE TO DEFEAT HITLER AT HOME AND ABROAD!"

"READ THE DAILY AND SUNDAY WORKER FOR TRUE AND ACCURATE REPORTING!"

"Section #8 Branch #7 Communist Party of Philadelphia"

b2  
b7D On November 21, 1941, [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, corresponded with the Philadelphia Office and advised them that the America First Committee ran a two-column advertisement in the "Kourtier Post", Camden, New Jersey, on November 13, 1941; and that the gist of the advertisement was that the only way to "halt the march of the war makers" was to communicate immediately with Congressmen, expressing desire that they vote against the repeal of the Neutrality Act. The name of [redacted] was mentioned.

b7C The following information is contained in a memorandum of this file dated November 28, 1941, submitted by Special Agent [redacted]

"The Philadelphia Bulletin for November 17, 1941, carries the following article:

"Failure of President Roosevelt to get a majority of more than eighteen votes for the amendment to the Neutrality Act 'is a plain sign of mounting opposition to the policies and methods of his personal government', ISAAC A. PENNYPACKER, Chairman of the America First Committee in Philadelphia, said today."

On January 15, 1942, it was ascertained from a strictly confidential source and by the Special Agent in Charge, J. F. SEARS, that [redacted]

b7D  
b7C A search of the indices of the Philadelphia Field Office reflects that [redacted]



**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

WAR DEPARTMENT  
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, G-2  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Gandy	_____

**APR 8 1942**  
Subject: Letter of transmittal.  
To: Lt. Col. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice

The attached communications are forwarded for your information and such action as you consider advisable.

For the Chief, Military Intelligence Service:

*John T. Bissell*  
J. T. BISSELL  
Colonel, General Staff,  
Asst. Executive Officer, M. I. S.

1 Enclosure:

I should like

PA

FBI b7c

Declassified per Army  
letter dtd 5/29/91  
8/23 meh/ty 8/13/91

9 APR 14 1942

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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100-4712-322  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
IS APR 6 1942  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FBI b7c

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DEPARTMENT

WD 201 America  
First Committee  
3/11/42

M. I. D.

MIS/CI

March 31, 1942  
(Date)

Subject: <sup>0</sup> America First Committee Activities

Summary of Information:

Information has been received from a confidential reliable source as follows:

Under date of September 22d, 1941, a telephone operator, had placed through several long distance telephone calls of the America First Committee to other cities at the time of the Lindbergh speech in Oklahoma City. She became acquainted with a man whose last name is Foulis (first name unknown) and who is one of the field representatives of the America First Committee. She stated that several of the telephone calls of Foulis to other Committee members were unintelligible which led her to believe that they were in code.

Before Lindbergh was to make his speech in Oklahoma City, Foulis turned over to the telephone operator his locked brief case which seemed to be crammed full of material, to keep for him as he thought that the FBI was on his trail. Other persons telephoned by Foulis included Richard Jeffrey and Joe Palmer Etheridge, both of whose addresses are unknown.

The Tulsa Police Department furnished a report dated October 28, 1941, advising that there was practically no activity in that area on the part of this Committee at that time. It was stated that the Chairman of this Committee, a Mack Shrodes, Tulsa, is violently anti-New Deal and it was felt that Shrodes would not do anything against this country.

Mrs. Eugenie Howard is Secretary of the Tulsa Organization and her sister, Mrs. Ella Cessel is Treasurer. Both are natives of the state of Nebraska and have resided in Tulsa for many years. It is believed that they are pacifists and are not un-American.

Previous Distribution:

8 C.A.

Distribution:

FBI

Evaluation

-of source	-of inform
<u>X</u> Reliable	<u>X</u>
<u>      </u> Credible	
<u>      </u> Questionable	
<u>      </u> Undetermined	

Declassified per Army  
letter dtd 5/29/91  
8/23 mch/ty 8/13/91

67c

Special Agent in Charge  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

RE: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-16-90 BY SP8BTJ/col

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter to all Special Agents  
in Charge dated March 16, 1942, in the above-captioned matter.

For your information there are enclosed herewith copies  
of an article entitled "America Firster Fans Blame of Exacts Anti-  
Labor Fire," which appeared in the PM Daily, New York City, on  
March 24, 1942, and dealing with the activities of Mack Schrodes  
of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

This article is being furnished to you in view of the  
possibility that Schrodes may be active in extending the policies  
of the America First Committee or attempting to revive this organiza-  
tion.

Any inquiries should be made under the procedure outlined  
in reference Bureau letter to all Special Agents in Charge.

Very truly yours,

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Holloman  
Mr. McGuire  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 4  
ENCLOSURE  
★ APR 2 12 12 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

RECORDED

INDEXED

100-4712-3  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
18 APR 6 1942  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

67c



# THE NATION

## America Firsters Fans Blaze Of Ersatz Anti-Labor Fire

Mack Schrodes, Lindbergh Admirer Last August, Staged Meeting in Tulsa to Frame Protest Against Overtime Pay

By L. F. Stone

WASHINGTON, Mar. 24.—At least one America First leader is playing a part in the ersatz "bracket fire" being set up against labor from the Southwest.

He is Mack Schrodes, of Tulsa, Okla.

Schrodes helped organize the antilabor mass meeting held in Tulsa last Wednesday.

Last August he tried to get Lindbergh to speak in Tulsa instead of Oklahoma City.

Schrodes was then chairman of the Tulsa chapter of the America First Committee.

The link between the two movements, discovered by this correspondent in a check over the few Oklahoma papers available at the Library of Congress, tends to confirm suspicion widely held in official and labor circles here and one which will be investigated by the Truman Committee.

This suspicion has been voiced twice in the last few days.

William Green, AFL president, asked the Military Affairs Subcommittee of the Senate Committee last week

to find out whether the America First crowd was behind the campaign against extra

hours.

Charles McNamara, the new Wage-Hour Commissioner, charged that "the Nazi propaganda machine is behind this whole movement."

He also charged that the wage and hour standards "cannot cite chapter and verse" and that "papers have been

used to back up the charges."

Neither McNamara nor Green would elaborate on their charges. Independent inquiry is being played by

### Sponsored Mass Meeting

The first reference to Schrodes was found in last Tuesday's issue of the Tulsa Tribune. He was among those who signed the call for the Wage-Hour Law mass meeting in Tulsa.

The call said:

"Knowing that our country is in great danger both from within and without, the undersigned citizens of Tulsa issue this call for a mass meeting . . . to consider and adopt resolutions to be sent to Congressmen, Senators and to the President, demanding the stopping of strikes in industries, which should be working 24 hours per day in the making of guns, planes, tanks, ships, powder and other weapons for the defense of this Nation, and for the defeat of our powerful and advancing enemies; the suspension of the law that forces a 40-hour work week, and demanding the redress of other sore grievances . . ."

The previous connection of Schrodes with America First appeared in Oklahoma newspaper stories at the time of the Lindbergh meeting.

One Tulsa newspaper man also figured in those stories.

The Tulsa World of Aug. 20 reported

PM DAILY

Page 11

MAR 24 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/27/82 BY SP6TSC/CL

10-16-90

Letter to Okla City - 4/1/42 b7c

CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **Chicago, Illinois**

FILE NO. **100-1800**

REPORT MADE AT <b>Portland, Oregon</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>1-2-42</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3-27, 28, 30-42</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>
SUBJECT <b>AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>	
DECLASSIFIED BY <b>SP8BJS/ccl</b> ON <b>10-16-90</b>		ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:	Files reviewed and pertinent information set out. Same reflects speakers with pro-Facist tendencies have addressed meetings of instant organization prior to present war.		
REFERENCE:	Bureau letter to all SACs dated March 16, 1942.		
DETAILS:	<u>AT PORTLAND, OREGON</u>  Information contained herein has been obtained from a review of the files of the Portland Field Division which information is contained wholly in newspaper articles printed by the local press. No active investigation has as yet been conducted by this office concerning the past or present activities of the America First Committee.		
On March 2, 1941 MAURICE O'CONNOR, an investment banker from Chicago, Illinois, in a statement contained in the "Oregonian" of March 2, 1941 indicated that he was visiting Portland in the interests of the America First Committee for the purpose of holding conferences with a number of Portlanders who were actively interested in the work of the Committee. O'CONNOR indicated that he was a volunteer worker. He further stated to the press that the America First Committee figured that it was on the right track when it talked pro-Americanism and he indicated that he felt very strongly on the subject and believed in going out and doing something about it. He further indicated that the committee was definitely not "anti" anything and was very definitely not pacifists. His further statement revealed that in his opinion eighty-five percent of the people in this country were with the America First Committee and the other fifteen percent seemed to want to take actions that would push			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 2 Bureau 2 Chicago 2 Portland		100-4712-324 RECORDED FOI/PA # 26235 APPEAL # CIVIL # E.O. # DATE 5/20/86 INITIALS TCJ	
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pg. 4 para graph 3 cont.  
pg. 10 declassified per Navy  
letter dtd 7/25/91  
8123 mch/leg 8/16/91



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the country into war. O'CONNER furnished the local press with a statement signed by General ROBERT E. WOOD, the acting national chairman of the organization which set forth that the "America First Committee believes that the United States must build an impregnable defense for America; that no foreign power or group of powers can successfully attack a prepared America; that American democracy can be preserved only by keeping out of the European war."

"And that the cash and carry provision of the existing neutrality act are essential to American peace and security. Aid to a belligerent, beyond the limits of the Act, weakens our defense at home and may involve us in war abroad. Any change in the law to permit American vessels to enter the combat zone would inevitably plunge the country into Europe's war".

O'CONNER concluded by stating that the American people are keenly interested in international affairs and that he was limiting his contact to friends who were already in the organization. He advised that he was neither a promoter nor an organizer and emphatically denied that either he or his organization were in any way connected with the VERN MARSHALL group or any other group. According to O'CONNER the state of Oregon was being organized by people in Oregon and the Oregon headquarters were to be in Portland.

A notation published in the "Oregonian" in the April 12, 1941 edition stated "Keep Out of Foreign Wars" - "Join America First Committee, 728 Failing Bldg., BE 1763." It should be noted that [REDACTED]

b7c [REDACTED] In connection therewith the "Oregonian", April 16, 1941 issue, stated that DELMORE LESSARD, acting chairman for the Oregon Chapter of the America First Committee, on a previous Tuesday addressed a letter to HAROLD L. ICKES, Secretary of the Interior, protesting ICKES verbal attack on Colonel CHARLES A. LINDBERGH. LESSARD's letter also denounced ICKES for his criticism of leaders of the America First Committee and charged the Secretary with "evading facts in your anxiety to discredit patriotic citizens whose sincere convictions compell them to disagree with you". According to the April 17, 1941 issue of the "Oregon Journal" the Portland chapter of the America First Committee was scheduled to meet at 7:30 P.M. the following day in the central library. At that time WALTER T. LILES, Oregon organizer, was to discuss "Convoys Mean Coffins". It also was indicated that LESSARD, acting Oregon chairman, had named OSCAR TUQUAY as Portland chairman. It should be noted that [REDACTED]

b7c [REDACTED] A notation in the last-mentioned newspaper dated April 24, 1941 indicated that instant organization was to hold its meetings every Friday at 7:30 P.M. in the Portland Hotel and on the following day, G. C. GILLIS of Salem, Oregon, was to address the Committee gathering. It was further indicated that the public was invited to the meeting. It should be noted that a

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There appeared in the "Oregonian" of May 3, 1941 an article indicating that the America First Committee at a meeting on May 2, 1941 formally adopted a resolution demanding the resignations of the Secretary of the Navy FRANK KNOX and Secretary of War, HENRY L. STIMSON. It was indicated that the resolution was based chiefly on the declaration that KNOX and STIMSON had shown by their actions and public speeches that they were committed to a policy of foreign wars for the United States which was against the will of eighty three percent of the American people. That meeting was addressed by DELMORE LESSARD, indicated as president of the local organization, and ROY METCALF. It should be noted that [REDACTED]

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An article appearing in the morning "Oregonian" dated May 3, 1941 indicated that DELMORE LESSARD, Chairman of the Oregon Chapter of the America First Committee" was to address the student body at Reed College the following day on a topic entitled "What is the 5th Column", and on the evening of the same date LESSARD was to speak on the same subject at a rally of the America First Committee which was to be held at the Shattuck School auditorium. It was further indicated that the aforementioned rally was open to the public.

On May 9, 1941, according to an article in the "Oregon Journal", LESSARD and HUGH DELACEY of the America Peace Mobilization, spoke on "The Case For Non-Intervention" under the auspices of the Reed Union Committee at Reed College. It was indicated that the America First Committee believed in the US Navy as the nation's first line of defense without the help of any other fleet and that the United States could defend American shores without outside help and that there was no danger from eighty million Germans when they couldn't conquer forty million Englishmen. It should be noted that [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] At the time of the meeting at the Shattuck School as above pointed out, PETER ZIMMERMAN, according to the May 10, 1941 issue of the "Oregonian" addressed the gathering. He allegedly stated that "war mongers headed by Secretary of War STIMSON are trying to force the American people into a war which will lead to their destruction". ZIMMERMAN further asserted that this organization was laying the truth before the people and showing them the untruth of the propaganda now inspired by the international bankers". It should be noted that [REDACTED]

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In connection with activities of women members of the America First Committee, the May 15, 1941 issue of the "Oregonian" carried a notation indicating that chief speakers at a ladies' meeting of the Oregon Chapter of the America

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First Committee on the same date would be Mrs. ROSE WAGNER and Mrs. ERNEST MILLER and at a following meeting, according to the "Oregonian" of May 22, 1941 on that date the "Bundles for Americans", a new unit of the women's organization of the America First Committee, held a meeting at which gathering GRACE WICK made an address on "LINDBERGH, a Great American", and at that time Mrs. ROSE WAGNER, above-mentioned, was also active. Attention is called to Portland file [REDACTED] that [REDACTED]

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The June 5, 1941 issue of the "Oregonian" notes a meeting of instant organization which was to be held the following night at the W.O.W. hall at which time E. E. KLINE was to be one of the speakers and was to discuss "Unseen Dangers Ahead for America." It was further indicated that Chairman DELIMORE LESSARD was to report on a conference with the Washington Chapter of the Committee and plans drawn at that time for the appearance in Portland of CHARLES A. LINDBERGH.

The June 5, 1941 issue of the "Oregon Journal" indicates that CHARLES LINDBERGH was to speak at Jantzen Beach Park at a night meeting of said Committee, according to LESSARD, State Chairman who had just returned from a trip to the national headquarters in Chicago. It was further indicated that OTTO CASE of Washington state America First Committee had accompanied LESSARD to Chicago.

The June 7, 1941 issue of the "Oregonian" contained an article concerning a protest made by the executive board of the Portland Americanization Council to the Public School Board against the use of the public auditorium and public school buildings by instant organization. Protest was lodged on behalf of the Americanization Council by Circuit Judge JAMES W. CRAWFORD, President of the Council. In answer to the protest, LESSARD, himself a member of the Americanization Council, declared that the individuals who had inspired the resolution were really the Fifty Column in America, in view of the fact that they would deny the constitutional right to free speech to those in disagreement. LESSARD further stated that the public auditorium at that time had not been sought by the group for meetings and that LINDBERGH and Senator B. K. WHEELER, scheduled to speak in Portland, would appear at Jantzen Beach Park.

The June 19, 1941 issue of the "Oregonian," carried an announcement by LESSARD, Chairman of instant organization to the effect that DAVID NORTH CLARK, U.S. Senator from Idaho and a member of the non-interventionist block of the senate, was scheduled to address a large gathering of the America First Committee the following Tuesday. It was indicated that Senator CLARK was a graduate of the old Columbia University Academy in Portland and was scheduled to speak on "Why America Should Keep Out of War". The address was to be made at the Benson High School auditorium on the aforementioned date. The same issue of the aforementioned newspaper contained a contribution by LESSARD entitled "Emergency Without Law?". In said article, LESSARD

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In addressing the editor of the "Oregonian" indicated in substance that there was a mistaken ideal prevalent in the minds of many people as to just what constituted an "unlimited emergency" which had recently been declared by President ROOSEVELT. LESSARD pointed out that no one had attempted to define its meaning; that even the President did not make himself clear. He further stated that he had searched the provisions of the United States constitution which did not disclose any authority whatsoever for an "unlimited emergency". He also indicated that the laws of the United States were silent as to any granted presidential authority to declare an "unlimited emergency". As a result the American public was bewildered, according to LESSARD, and he stated that some people were under the belief that such an emergency meant the end of free speech and the confiscation of private property. In conclusion he said that in the absence of constitutional or statutory authority the president's declared "unlimited emergency" was merely an expression of the president's own private opinion and for that reason the America First Committee would continue its work of unmasking the war mongers and their malicious propaganda. LESSARD's article was answered in an editorial published in the same edition. Further comment will not be made herein in view of the fact that the editor's answer contained quotations from various statutes contained in U.S.C.A.

On June 14, 1941, according to an issue of the "Oregonian", on the previous date A. E. KUHNHAUSEN and Miss DAIZY BEVINS were to address a meeting of instant organization. [REDACTED]

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On June 27, 1941 OSCAR FUQUAY spoke at the meeting of the America First Committee at which time his subject was "Should America Fight for Russia to Save England". This was in accordance with an article which appeared in the "Oregonian" on the same date.

On July 4, 1941, according to an issue of the "Oregon Journal" on that date, LESSARD addressed instant organization at a public meeting in the W.O.W. hall and his subject at that time was "American Independence in 1776 and 1941".

There was some comment indicating that the America First Committee had been subsidized to some extent in this area by pro-German interests. In connection therewith attention is called to an article which appeared in the "Oregonian" under date of August 2, 1941 which indicated that WILLIAM D. BROWNE, Chairman of the Subversive Research Committee of the American Legion, Department of Oregon, and a Portland detective connected with the Portland Police Department, had information which proved conclusively that the America First Committee had been supported financially in part by one of the close Nazi front organizations. In that article LESSARD allegedly termed the accusations of the Legion committee as "preposterous" and averred that "no German organization had ever helped the America First Committee". LESSARD further commented

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Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] at Portland, Oregon dated August 20, 1941 entitled [REDACTED] - b6

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It is noted that the August 19, 1941 edition of the "Oregonian" contained an announcement of an appearance by Senator RUSH D. HOLT who was appearing under the auspices of the Portland Chapter of the America First Committee. The announcement was as follows: "Who will be WORLD RULER when war is ended? Senator Holt will name the first KING of 'Union Now'. No admission charge." In substance, HOLT's remarks during the course of his speech were, according to the August 20, 1941 edition of the Oregonian, directed against America fighting to save England and it was his suggestion that no lives of American boys should be sacrificed to save the British empire. He indicated that war was the result of an economic dislocation in Europe and the destruction of HITLER was not going to end it. HOLT was indicated as being the "boy senator" and it was revealed that his talk was punctuated with the words hypocrisy and subterfuge and also dishonesty and he criticized the sea meeting of President ROOSEVELT and WINSTON CHURCHILL. HOLT also struck at the proposal of a lend-lease arrangement with Russia and stated that the same was an insult to the intelligence of every thinking person in the United States. It was revealed that HOLT's references to President ROOSEVELT, CHURCHILL and STALIN brought loud boos from the crowd present.

Various publications of the "Oregon Journal" and "Oregonian" for September 17, 18 and 19, 1941 indicated negotiations by the America First Committee with the City Council of Portland for the use of the public auditorium in Portland for a speech by Senator BURTON K. WHEELER and it was indicated that instant organization paid the sum of \$224.00 for the rental of the auditorium.

Senator WHEELER spoke on September 22, 1941 in the auditorium at which time, according to the "Oregonian" for September 23, 1941, he denounced the foreign policies of the ROOSEVELT administration. Approximately 4,300 persons were present. WHEELER publicly stated that he had been informed by high military authorities that an invasion of the United States would require the simultaneous landing of two million men at key American points. The only demonstration came at the mention of the names of CHARLES A. LINDBERGH and WENDELL WILKIE, both of whom were booed with impartiality. In an interview with WHEELER prior to his speech, he indicated to the "Oregonian" reported in accordance with the September 23, 1941 issue of said paper that a British victory in the present struggle was not essential to the United States and he avowed that the United States Navy has never depended upon the British Navy or anyone else and no country depending upon any other nation for protection is any longer an independent nation. WHEELER's address was prefaced by opening remarks of DELMORE LESSARD mentioned herein.

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On October 10, 1941 according to an issue of the "Oregonian" of that same date, Dr. R. A. PHILLIPS was the speaker at a meeting of the America First Committee in the W.O.W. Hall. It was indicated that members of the committee between the ages of seventeen and twenty five planned to organize a youth committee against foreign war. It should be noted that Portland Field Division file [REDACTED]

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An article appearing in the October 19, 1941 issue of the "Oregonian" mentioned that persons attending a recent meeting of instant organization in Portland endorsed a resolution urging congress to consider impeachment of the president and to vote for the retention of the Neutrality Act. Among other things the article pointed out that charges were that the president, secretary of war and secretary of the navy had without authority of the congress ordered American troops into Iceland to serve under the command of officers of the belligerent nations; further that government orders were for the U.S. Navy to shoot on sight ships of another belligerent nation which had not attacked the United States and also to commit many other overt acts to plunge the United States into war under the false pretext of keeping America out of war. Congress was urged further to vote for retention of the present neutrality act which had been passed for just such a period as the country was now facing.

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At a meeting on October 24, 1941, according to an article in the "Oregon Journal" of that date Captain MICHAEL KECK, a former member of the Russian Imperial Army, addressed an America First Committee rally in the west side W.O.W. Hall and his subject was "The Communist Revolution in Russia As I Saw It". It was indicated further that there would be a discussion at said meeting of the administration's action relative to repeal of the Neutrality Act. [REDACTED]

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Attention is called to an article appearing in the "People's World", West coast Communist newspaper, in the October 15, 1941 issue in which it is pointed out that at a convention of the C.I.O. International Wood workers in Everett, Washington, said labor union, after a skirmish on the floor, voted unanimously to condemn the America First Committee. It was further indicated that the slap against the America First Committee came during the report of the committee on officers' reports. H. L. THOMPSON of Lebanon, Oregon, the committee member, recommended to the union gathering that a section of the officers' report condemning the America First Committee be stricken. When questioned on the refusal to condemn the America First Committee, THOMPSON explained that his committee felt that that section was condemning the America First Committee and was contradictory to the section on civil liberties because it came out on one side on the page and upheld the action of certain individuals while on the other page it condemned the actions of other individuals. The persons upheld, according to said article, in the report were HARRY BRIDGES, HAROLD KING, ERNEST RAMSAY, and FRANK CONNER, all members of the labor movement whose cases were cited as examples of abrogation of civil liberties. O. M. ORTON, President of the I.W.A., delivered a slashing attack on the America First Committee which finally led to a denouncing of the activities of instant organization by the I.W.A. Union.

An article appearing in the October 20, 1941 issue of the "Oregonian" reflected that DELMORE LESSARD had announced his resignation as chairman of the America First Committee in Oregon in a letter sent to General R. E. WOOD, Chicago, Illinois, National Chairman of the America First Committee. LESSARD was reported to have resigned for the reason that he could no longer continue as America First Chairman and simultaneously conduct his law practice. It was indicated further that America First members had made efforts to induce Colonel CHARLES E. ROBERTSON, of West Salem, Oregon to accept the chairmanship. However, ROBERTSON at that time had not consented. LESSARD in a statement to the press in said article indicated that he was proud of the fact that the membership of the Oregon chapter at that time numbered in the thousands and that the regular Friday night meetings were well attended by an audience whose seriousness and patriotism could not be questioned. He further stated that although he would cease to act for instant organization in an official capacity, he wanted it known that he thoroughly believed in the principals and thoroughly appreciated the patriotic efforts of that organization in trying to save this country from participation in Europe's and Asia's wars. LESSARD felt that regardless of the results of the efforts of the Committee, when the terrible war was over, history would demonstrate the righteousness of the committee's stand. Subsequent to LESSARD's resignation the "Oregonian" for November 20, 1941 indicated that LESSARD was to be the speaker for the America First Committee meeting the following day and that he was formerly the state chairman.

It should be noted that a report from [REDACTED] dated August 22, 1941 indicated that literature of subject organization was circulated on August 19, 1941 in Seattle, Washington by that city's branch office which had been established at 300 Insurance Building, Seattle, Washington. (S)

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and that the propaganda distributed listed the members of the National Committee and the aims and activities of subject organization with the announcement "The Path to War Is a False Path to Freedom." It was indicated that a sample of the literature was on the file in the office of [REDACTED] (S)(A)(C) U b2

b7c It should be noted that Portland Field Division file [REDACTED] with aliases - INTERNAL SECURITY - G" has been closed and that [REDACTED] name has not been considered for custodial detention by this office.

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE PORTLAND FIELD DIVISION

AT PORTLAND, OREGON

will conduct an investigation of instant organization for the purpose of determining whether or not said organization is presently active and will conduct said investigation along the lines indicated in reference Bureau letter.

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- ☒ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

## Section 552

## Section 552a

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

FILE NO. **100-894**

REPORT MADE AT <b>KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>1-30-42</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>1-25-26; 7-8-42</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>
TITLE <b>0 AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - G</b>

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

No America First Committee local or chapter ever formed in Knoxville, Tenn. or Johnson City or vicinity. Knoxville Peace Council sponsored speech by Dr. CHARLES MORRISON, Editor of Christian Century, an America First Committee speaker, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Knoxville Peace Council continues to hold meetings of informal and social nature, but has formulated no clear policy.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE **5/1/82** BY **SP8 BTJ/SL**

- RUC -

## REFERENCE:

Bureau letter to all Field Offices dated March 16, 1942.

## DETAILS:

[REDACTED]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <b>[REDACTED]</b>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <b>[REDACTED]</b>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>100-4712-325</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (5) Bureau 2 - Chicago 2 - Knoxville		<b>APR 24 1942</b> <b>b7c</b>

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Dr. CHARLES MORRISON, Editor of the Christian Century, spoke at the Lyric Theater in Knoxville on May 26, 1941; that NORMAN MOORE, presided, and that the audience was urged to send postcards and telegrams to the President expressing the general theme "Stop where we are." The invocation at this meeting was given by Reverend C. L. SIMPSON and the benediction by Reverend STEWARD BUTTON, while G. C. McHARRIS instructed the audience in filling out America First membership cards. In the speech given by MORRISON, he stated that the American people owed allegiance to the President; that he swore and promised American mothers that their sons would not fight on foreign soil. MORRISON stated that this was the President who was elected to an unprecedented third term in the fall of 1940 and not the President who by propaganda and aid to Britain was leading this country to war. MORRISON stated that he was a non-interventionist and not a pacifist. MORRISON further stated, "Economic life is now ascended over the political power of nations. The usurpage threatens every national state as a political entity. America should not tie herself up in preserving the British empire, for the world today is in the grip of a revolution that should not be identified with the present conflict. For America to hang her destiny upon the existence of another nation is to drive nails into rotting timber." MORRISON further stated that there were certain hangers-on, Nazis and Bolsheviki, that intrude in this non-interventionist movement who also share the desire to keep America out of war, and whose presence at meetings cause critics to take their appearance as symbols of the movement itself. MORRISON stated that he hated Hitlerism and in his paper, The Christian Century, had attacked MUSSOLINI before HITLER and STALIN were ever known to the legislators.

An editorial appearing in the Knoxville Journal on May 26, 1941 advertised a speech to be given by MORRISON and urged the people of Knoxville not to identify the America First Committee with Communists and Nazis who might turn out to hear the speakers. This editorial pointed to the public denouncement by JOHN T. FLYNN of a group of Nazi sympathizers who were sitting near the platform at a speech

given by CHARLES A. LINDBERGH in New York on the week of May 20, 1941, which indicated that the America First Committee did not desire nor tolerate reports from the Nazis.

b7D [REDACTED] In addition, the News-Sentinel stated that MORRISON's speech was sponsored by the Knoxville Peace Council and reported that MORRISON said that the people have lost control of their Government and that the President in a series of talk and propaganda was leading the people into war by heightening the present dilemma. MORRISON was quoted as follows: "If he knows he does not have the united support of the people, the die will not be cast for war. The power of public opinion is the only power greater than the President's." A branch of the America First Committee was planned to be formed in Knoxville following this meeting. However, it will be noted that on May 27, the day following the meeting, the President proclaimed a national emergency; that through this talk of the President, those persons who were isolationists and pacifists consequently did not take any action to form an America First Committee branch at this time.

[REDACTED] b7c  
b2D [REDACTED] all advised that to the best of their knowledge, no branch of the America First Committee had ever been formed in the city of Knoxville.



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c  
b7D

[REDACTED]

A review of the file entitled Knoxville Peace Council, Knoxville file number 65-14, reveals that the Knoxville Peace Council

has continued to operate through occasional informal social meetings held at various homes. It is reported that the members of this Council have previously been reported to have Communist leanings rather than leanings toward Nazism, and that the discussions held at these meetings have a tendency to favor Communism rather than Nazism. Although at the present time there seems to be no definite policy followed by this Council, there has been no information received which would indicate that any of these individuals are cooperating with foreign interests in such a manner to interfere with national defense efforts.

Inasmuch as it appears that there never was any branch of the America First Committee in the territory of the Knoxville Field Division, this case is being referred upon completion.

The file entitled Knoxville Peace Council is being kept in a pending status, and any additional information which would indicate a tie-up between the Knoxville Peace Council and the national headquarters of the America First Committee will be reported. This case will also be re-opened in the event that the Bureau comes into possession of information of interest to the Knoxville Field Division.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

FILE NO. 100-451

REPORT MADE AT <b>ATLANTA, GEORGIA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4/9/42</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/24/42</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <span style="float: right;">b7c</span>
TITLE <b>AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - G</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Files reviewed and information contained therein set forth in instant report. No indications that America First Committee is holding meetings in Atlanta, Georgia. Senator BURTON K. WHEELER cancelled scheduled speech for Atlanta, Georgia on July 10, 1941. Background of individuals responsible for above scheduled meeting set forth. Confidential informant contacted with negative results.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 6/2/80 BY SP-6 bja/te

**REFERENCE:**

Bureau letter to all field offices Re: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE, Internal Security - G, dated March 16, 1942.

**DETAILS:**

A review of newspaper clippings contained in the Atlanta file discloses that Senator BURTON K. WHEELER cancelled a speech scheduled for Atlanta, Georgia on July 10, 1941.

A review of these same articles disclosed that the following individuals were interested in having WHEELER speak in Atlanta, Georgia.

**[REDACTED]**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>F.R. Hammack</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">100 4712 - 326</div> <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">APR 11 1942</div>	RECORDED & INDEXED <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">b7c</div>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> COPIES DESTROYED 3/2/82 R-116  COPIES OF THIS REPORT  5 Bureau  3 Chicago  2 Atlanta </div> <div> <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">COPY IN FILE</div> </div> </div>		

Atlanta 100-431

[REDACTED] b7c

Of the above individuals [REDACTED] appeared to be the chairman and the leader of the group desiring to have Senator WHEELER come to Atlanta to speak concerning the keeping of America out of war.

[REDACTED] b7c b7D

In reference to the America First Committee, [REDACTED] searched his files and advised that he has not had any inquiry concerning the above committee and therefore doubts the fact that the above committee is holding meetings in Atlanta. [REDACTED] stated that he knows [REDACTED] is not heading any committee in Atlanta at the present time, but is giving his entire support to America's war efforts. [REDACTED] advised that if he should ascertain in the future that the America First Committee is active in Atlanta, Georgia, he will communicate with the writer and apprise him of such information.

[REDACTED]

Of the other individuals listed above, the Atlanta Office has an Internal Security file on [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED]

Atlanta

100-431

b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b2  
b7D

[REDACTED] that he has no knowledge of any meetings being held in Atlanta by the America First Committee.

[REDACTED] was contacted and also advised that he has no knowledge of any meetings being held in Atlanta by the America First Committee. [REDACTED] advised that he has never received any literature from the America First Committee and stated to the best of his knowledge [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] advised that they have not heard of any meetings being held by the America First Committee. [REDACTED]

b7c  
b7d

[REDACTED] advised that if they should ascertain that the America First Committee is holding meetings they will immediately notify the Atlanta Office.

Inasmuch as the America First Committee does not appear to be active in the Atlanta Field Division this case is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.**

Honolulu FILE NO. **100-2130**

<b>REPORT MADE AT</b> HONOLULU, T. H.	<b>DATE WHEN MADE</b> 4/8/42	<b>PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE</b> 3/28, 31/42	<b>REPORT MADE BY</b> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> b7c
<b>TITLE</b> AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE			<b>CHARACTER OF CASE</b> INTERNAL SECURITY - G
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> <b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b> </div> <div style="width: 65%;"> <p>No branch organization of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE has ever existed in Honolulu, T. H.</p> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 100px; margin-top: 10px;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;">- R. U. C. -</p> </div> </div> <div style="position: absolute; right: 0; top: 50px; transform: rotate(90deg); font-size: small;">                         RECORDED b7c b7D                     </div> <div style="position: absolute; right: 0; top: 150px;">                         ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/2/86 BY SP8 BTJ/ed 10-16796                     </div>			
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> <b>REFERENCE:</b> </div> <div style="width: 65%;"> <p>Letter from the Bureau dated March 16, 1942.</p> </div> </div>			
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> <b>DETAILS:</b> </div> <div style="width: 65%;"> <p><div style="background-color: black; width: 150px; height: 1.2em; display: inline-block;"></div> advised that he is very much opposed to the principles of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE and, therefore, followed the activities of that organization with interest. Ever since the inception of the organization on the mainland, he has observed activities in the local community to determine if a branch organization might be created in Honolulu. As a result of his observations, he has never noticed any activity of the AMERICA</p> </div> </div> <div style="position: absolute; right: 0; top: 60px; font-size: small;">                         b2 b7D                     </div>			
<b>APPROVED AND FORWARDED:</b> <div style="text-align: center;">                           R. R. Schindler                     </div>		<b>SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</b> <div style="text-align: center;">                           [Signature]                     </div>	
<b>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</b> 5 - Bureau 2 - Chicago 1 - G-2, Honolulu 1 - ONI, Honolulu 2 - Honolulu		<b>DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES</b> <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">100-4712-327</div> <div style="position: relative; height: 100px;"> <div style="position: absolute; top: 0; right: 0; font-size: 1.5em;">b7c</div> <div style="position: absolute; bottom: 0; left: 0; font-size: 1.5em;">b7c</div> </div>	
<div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">COPY IN FILE</div> <div style="text-align: center;">APR 20 1942</div>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">                         RECORDED &amp; INDEXED                     </div> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">LS-19</div>	

100-2130

FIRST COMMITTEE in Honolulu and he is quite certain that no branch of the organization was ever initiated in the Territory of Hawaii.

[REDACTED] b2  
[REDACTED] b7C  
[REDACTED] b7D

He further advised that he has been constantly on the lookout to determine if the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE ever became active in Honolulu. He is certain that the organization was never promoted in the Territory of Hawaii, which fact, he believed, was due to the influence of an individual by the name of [REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED] b2  
[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] revealed that he had received several letters from the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in Chicago, requesting him to start a branch organization of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in Honolulu. He particularly received a letter from HAMILTON FISH, Congressman, asking him likewise to start a branch of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE, to which individual he addressed an indignant refusal.

[REDACTED] b7C  
[REDACTED] b7D

Informant related, however, that there were undoubtedly prominent individuals in the community who would have been interested in this organization if it had ever been initiated in Honolulu.

[REDACTED] b2  
[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] advised that he had no knowledge of the existence of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in Honolulu. He was quite certain that if this organization had ever become active locally, he would have received information concerning its activities.



[REDACTED] informed the writer that [REDACTED] has been bitterly opposed to the principles of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE, as well as the individuals who associated with that organization since its inception. [REDACTED]

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b7c  
b7D

In the Honolulu "Advertiser" of July 24, 1941, an article entitled, "LINDY ASKED TO TALK HERE BY ISOLATIONIST," appeared. This article stated, "Charles A. Lindbergh has been invited to speak in Honolulu with transportation paid in addition to whatever his fee might be, it was learned yesterday. The offer was made by a group of Honoluluans, remaining anonymous, who are sympathetic to the 'America First Committee' and other groups for whom Lindbergh is a leading spokesman."

[REDACTED] was unable to trace the identity of the above-mentioned anonymous Honoluluans, although he admitted that [REDACTED]

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100-2130

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b2  
b7C  
b7D

Since the above investigation failed to indicate that the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE functioned in Honolulu during the period of its existence, this case is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

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14234

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CHICAGO

FILE NO. 100-2549

REPORT MADE AT <b>ST. PAUL</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4-15-42</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>4-14-42</b>	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] <b>b7c</b>
TITLE <b>AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - G</b>

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[REDACTED] advises that at his suggestion and instructions from General Leonard Wood, the America First movement has been definitely abandoned in this district. All records have been sent to Chicago, no meetings have been held either by Officials or by internal groups formerly affiliated with the Committee. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] emphatically denies any activity, official or otherwise, on the part of committee or its membership.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/15/01 BY [REDACTED]

## REFERENCES:

Bureau form letter dated March 16, 1942. 10-16-90 SP8BJC

## DETAILS:

[REDACTED] advises very emphatically that both on their own suggestion and instructions of General Leonard Wood, the activities of the Committee have been definitely and conclusively terminated. They further state that records have all been sent to General Wood in Chicago, that no internal groups or committees have held meetings or engaged in any activities whatever, that the Committee insofar as Minnesota is concerned is definitely behind the War effort and the Administration, and officially or otherwise will not countenance subversive effort, unofficial meetings or gatherings under the guise of the America F:

APPROVED AND FORWARDED [Signature]	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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1423

100-2549

Committee and that no such meetings have been held.

Both informants further stated that they have taken every means possible to preclude any such activity.



b7c

- RUC -

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April 9, 1942

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

RE: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

10-16-90  
SP8BTS/CL

Dear Sir:

There are attached hereto, for your information only, copies of a communication, dated April 3, 1942, together with copies of the enclosure, received from [REDACTED], concerning [REDACTED].

For the completion of your files, please be advised that [REDACTED]

In conclusion, information is contained in the files of the Bureau that [REDACTED] has received communications from [REDACTED] is

indicating that the writer is quite pro-German. [REDACTED] is described as the type of person whose statements are given little weight. However, he was apparently active in the America First Committee and other isolationist groups.

Mr. Glavin: The above material may be of some assistance to you in continuing the investigation of the above-captioned organization.

Mr. Nichols

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Tracy

Mr. Carson

Mr. Coffey

Mr. Hendon

Mr. Holloman

Mr. McGuire

Mr. Quinn Tamm

Mr. Nease

Mr. Gandy

Enclosure

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 4  
APR 11 1942 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Very truly yours,

RECORDED & INDEXED  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

100-4712-329  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
APR 11 1942  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

WAR DEPARTMENT  
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, G-2  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
**APR 23 1942**

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. London	.....
Mr. Kramer	.....
Mr. McGuire	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Subject: Letter of transmittal.  
  
To: Lt. Col. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice


*CR*

The attached communications are forwarded for your information and such action as you consider advisable.

For the Chief, Military Intelligence Service:

*John T. Bissell*  
J. T. BISSELL  
Colonel, General Staff,  
Asst. Executive Officer, M. I. S.

1 Enclosure:

*cc - Enclosure to  
Boston 5/8/42*  
  
FBI  
b7c

1 ENCL. 18

*Declassified per  
letter dtd 5/29/91  
8/23 mch/tey 8/2/95 FBI b7c  
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&  
INDEXED

100-4712-330  
APR 24 1942  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FBI b7c

XX 235

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR DEPARTMENT

Office of A. C. of S., G-2  
First Corps Area  
(Office of Headquarters)

808 Commonwealth Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts

(Place)

April 6, 1942.

(Date)

Subject: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

Summary of Information:

The following information has been received at this office from a reliable source:

It is reported that the Subject Committee has reorganized and is holding meetings at "The Hideaway" Boston Café, on the first Saturday of each month.

TUDOR GARDINER is reported as one of the prime movers in the reorganization.

Declassified per Army  
letter dtd 5/29/91  
8/23 (mch) / May 8/13/91

Previous Distribution:

Distribution:

MIS b2/c1 distribution:  
308  
GND  
File File

Evaluation

-of source	-of information
<u>X</u> Reliable	<u>X</u>
<u>      </u> Credible	<u>      </u>
<u>      </u> Questionable	<u>      </u>
<u>      </u> Undetermined	<u>      </u>

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May 8, 1942

Special Agent in Charge  
Boston, Massachusetts

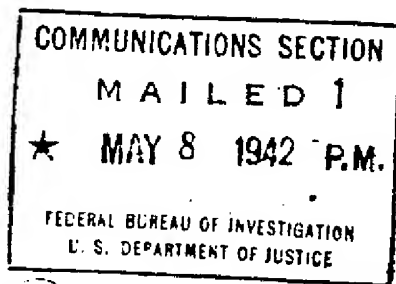
Re: **AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE**  
**INTERNAL SECURITY -**

Dear Sir:

For your information only there is attached in-  
formation which was received at the Bureau on April 23, 1942,  
from Military Intelligence Service, Washington, D. C.

10-16-90

*[Handwritten signature]*



Very truly yours,

*J. E. Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

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XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☒ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☒ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, New York**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

April 24, 1942

100-9887

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

INTERNAL SECURITY (G)

DECLASSIFIED BY 6081 LED/1  
ON 8-10-72

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Carson.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Kramer.....
Mr. McGuire.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Gandy.....
<b>FILES</b>

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter, dated March 16, 1942, directed to all Special Agents in Charge, and captioned as above, and the summary memorandum prepared by the Bureau dated February 13, 1942, transmitting therewith, information pertaining to the America First Committee.

Reference is also made to Bureau letter dated March 18, 1942, directed to the New York Field Division, under the same caption, which enclosed copies of communications received by the Bureau from the Military Intelligence Division, Washington, D. C.

During the course of the investigation presently being conducted, in New York City, relative to the information furnished in the above-mentioned communications and their enclosures, it has been noted that the information pertaining to recent activities of the America First Committee personnel in the New York Area, which was furnished to the Bureau by the Military Intelligence Division, was apparently secured by the M.I.D. from Mr. GEORGE J. MINTZER of the American Jewish Committee, 39 Broadway, New York City. This belief is based upon the fact that the copies of the M.I.D. report furnished by the Bureau to this office, are exact copies of the original reports in the possession of Mr. GEORGE J. MINTZER, which were mailed to him by one of his regularly paid informants, and Mr. MINTZER has advised that he had already made such information available to G-2, New York City.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

17 APR 1942

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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- ☒ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☒ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☒ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

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Letter to Bureau

April 24, 1942

I wanted to call the above information to the Bureau's attention, for the reason that I am instructing the Special Agent who is handling this investigation to make direct contact with

[REDACTED]

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Very truly yours,

*P. E. Foxworth*

P. E. FOXWORTH.  
Assistant Director.



**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.**

February 13, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

On the basis of information which has been developed in the course of investigating [redacted] and her family of New York City, together with information supplied by G-2 and a Bureau informant, it would appear that members of the America First Committee entertain the hope that the Committee may again become a political force; that they are biding their time in contemplation of this eventuality, despite the fact that the organization ostensibly concluded its activities following the entrance of the United States into the war. The above-mentioned Bureau informant has reported that the Committee has now gone underground under the leadership of Charles A. Lindbergh.

With regard to Lindbergh, you will recall my memorandum of January 29, 1942, setting forth the fact that it was developed through technical surveillance in the course of investigating [redacted] that Lindbergh spoke at length on December 17, 1941, at a dinner meeting of members of the America First Committee assembled at the home of Edwin S. Webster, Jr., 35 Beekman Street, New York City. Webster was New York Secretary of the Committee. It is recalled that Lindbergh stated that for years America has been speaking of the "Yellow Peril," yet we are now fighting on the side of the Russians and Chinese. It was reported that Lindbergh appeared discouraged with the United States Government on account of the fact that in his opinion it has no plan nor does it know for what it is fighting.

It is also recalled that my memorandum of January 29, 1942, set forth a communication received from G-2 with regard to this meeting addressed by Lindbergh on December 17, 1941. This communication

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
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Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Holloman	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gurnea	

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ON 8/14/91

See Army letter dtd  
5/29/91.

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Memorandum for the Director


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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

sets forth the gist of Lindbergh's remarks, according to reports of two persons who were present, as follows (S-1)(C)

"There is only one danger in the world - that is the yellow danger. China and Japan are really bound together against the white race. There could only have been one efficient weapon against this alliance, underneath the surface. Germany itself could have been this weapon. The ideal set-up would have been to have had Germany take over Poland and Russia, in collaboration with the British, as bloc against the yellow people and bolshevism. But instead, the British and the fools in Washington had to interfere. The British envied the Germans and wanted to rule the world forever. Britain is the real cause of all the trouble in the world today (S-1)(C)

"Of course, America First cannot be active right now. But it should keep on the alert and when the large missing lists and losses are published the American people will realize how much they have been betrayed by the British and the Administration. Then America First can be a political force again. We must be quiet a while and wait the time for active functioning. There may be a time soon when we can advocate a negotiated peace." (S-1)(C)



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Memorandum for the Director

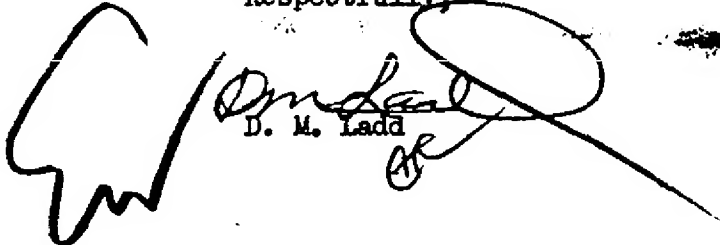
Page 3

ACTION

Inasmuch as it appears that the America First Committee is being revived and may be contemplating activities detrimental to the war effort of the United States, a memorandum has been prepared relative to the structure, activities, and connections of the Committee as it was organized prior to its allegedly going out of existence following our entry into the war. A memorandum of transmittal of the above-mentioned memorandum has been prepared for the Attorney General, together with an appropriate letter of transmittal to the White House. The cover memorandum to the Attorney General and the letter to the White House contain the pertinent information relative to the recent reports concerning the revival of the America First Committee as an underground organization.

The activities of the America First Committee will be closely followed on the basis of reports concerning its revival as an underground organization. In this connection the Attorney General is being advised that an investigation will be conducted into the various ramifications and connections of the Committee, unless in his opinion reason obtains for not conducting such investigation.

Respectfully,

  
D. M. Ladd

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F.B.I. COMMITTEE.

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~~EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING AND DECLASSIFICATION~~

SHOULD LIKE YOU TO KNOW  
OF THE RUNOR, BEFORE WE  
ENTERED THE WAR - IT WAS  
THIS, THAT MR. HENRY FORD,  
PACIFIST, CHARLES LINDBERGH  
AND MRS. KELLOGG FAIRBANKS, OF  
(CHICAGO, BOTH "AMERICA FIRST"  
ADVOCATES, HAD PLANNED TO FORM  
A NEW ORGANIZATION, TO OVERTHROW  
THIS GOVERNMENT, NO HARM IN  
KEEPING AN EAGLE EYE ON THIS  
TRIO.

RECORDED 100-4712-335  
INDEXED FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

VERY TRULY  
Yours,  
JULY 24 1942  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

No address  
no address given

MAY 27 1942 5/28/42

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American First Committee